

IPs vote for boycott of Olympics by majority of 168

Government scored a morale-boosting victory in the Commons when its motion calling for a boycott of the Moscow Games was supported by 168 to 147, a majority of 168.

An Opposition motion which, in effect, urged that British athletes be allowed to make up their own minds about going to Moscow, was defeated by 305 votes to 188, a Government majority of 117.

morale boost for Government

By Correspondent

A vote of 168 to 147 in the Commons today gave the Government a morale-boosting victory in its attempt to force a boycott of the Moscow Olympic Games. The motion, which called for a boycott of the Games, was supported by 168 to 147, a majority of 168.



Opposition spokesman Mr. Shore, who opened the debate with a speech indicating that he would have been happier supporting the Government's boycott.

For the world community to send their athletes to Moscow would be interpreted by the Soviet people, or interpreted for them, as international acceptance and approval of the Soviet Union and its policies, Mr. Shore said.

He found repugnant the image of British athletes at the opening and final ceremonies or whenever British success was secured, parading with the flag and anthem and paying collective response to the leaders of the Soviet Union.

It certainly sounded much stronger stuff than anything produced by Sir Ian, Mr. Shore's words brought an instant horrified response from Mr. Eric Heffer, Labour MP for Liverpool, Walton.

Was the party's spokesman telling the House that if all the Western countries agreed, then Britain ought to stay away from Moscow? That, Mr. Heffer said, was contrary to a widely held view on the Labour benches and in the mass of the Labour movement.

Mr. Shore accepted that there were different views but pointed out that there was a free vote. He was giving his personal view. But he went on to condemn the Government for not having correctly followed up the Prime Minister's first statement on January 17. There was no consultation with the British Olympic Committee and nothing was done effectively to win support either abroad or at home.

He added, had heard nothing about alternative sites or about agreement with other principal allies.

In such circumstances he would not recommend a British boycott. What had started as a reasonable and widely shared objective, Mr. Shore concluded, had been turned by incompetence and misjudgment into a source of serious division.

Parliamentary report, page 5

There was no further information from Sir Ian about agreement, or even lack of it, with our partners over what the response should be to the Russian invasion of Afghanistan.

The only new development was a minor back-pedalling over the announcement that no extra leave would be given to allow athletes in government service to take part in the Moscow Games. Sir Ian told the House there would be no additional paid leave allowed and that whether any government employees took unpaid leave would depend on the requirements of their job.

The Soviet Union, said Sir Ian, saw the games as a propaganda exercise from which they could derive great advantage.

The Government believed that non-participation offered Western countries the single most effective way of bringing home to the Soviet regime and the Russian people our refusal to accept their occupation of Afghanistan.

The numerous amendments to the Government motion on both sides of the House, agreeing only in their call for Soviet withdrawal and condemnation of the invasion, indicated the wide range of views; but perhaps the most startling divergence was that of the two-day meeting here is being held, the other countries participating are Sudan, Saudi Arabia, the Netherlands, Kenya, Dominican Republic, Canada, and the Philippines. Costa Rica and Portugal are attending as observers.

Mr. Hurd said they believed that as sports organizations in different countries realized to what extent the Moscow games would be marred by the absence of the Americans and other leading sporting nations they were "beginning to think in terms of other plans."

"Our aim is to help them in that consideration if that is the way their thoughts turn," he added. "As it is, however, the absence of certain countries from Moscow will lower the quality of competition there we think that sport by sport it may not be all sports—there will increasingly be interest in other kinds of competition."

"Anyway, we think we owe it to athletes and sporting organizations to give them the chance by suggesting and facilitating. If they turn their backs on this whole approach then we have tried."

He pointed out that some competitions could possibly be organized according to the rule books which did not need the consent of sporting federations. Any contests would be open to all athletes—even probably the Russians who had taken part in the Moscow Games. Though only 12 countries were at the meeting, the participants were in touch with many others who felt the same way.

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Blind manhandled: A blind protest marcher is gripped by a Delhi policeman while another officer swings a bamboo club at him. The march, held near the Prime Minister's residence, and attended by about 500 blind people on Sunday was to demand that more jobs should be made available to the blind.

Police action at the demonstration resulted in about 100 of the demonstrators being injured and a Government statement issued in the Indian Parliament yesterday expressing doubts about the incident led to uproar.

Angry Opposition MPs walked out of both Houses and Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, told the Lower House she was sorry about the brutality. She has appointed a judge to lead an inquiry and submit his findings within three weeks.

Dollar soars in response to Carter package

By Caroline Atkinson

Currency markets throughout Europe and the Far East gave a resounding welcome yesterday to President Carter's anti-inflation measures. The dollar soared against all major currencies and pushed the gold price down overall by 0.1 points, at 72.2 per cent of its end 1971 value.

The dollar has now gone out of gold. Yesterday's fall of 551 an ounce took it to its lowest level since before Christmas. At \$479 in the London close, gold was only a little more than half the peak price it touched in late January.

It has fallen sharply in the past few days in reaction to the rising dollar. Investors are keen to leave their money in gold, earning no interest, when the dollar is so high.

Against the dollar at one point, it recovered to close in London at \$2.1850, down 2.95 cents from Friday. In trade weighted terms a strong rise yesterday against West German and other European currencies left sterling down overall by 0.1 points, at 72.2 per cent of its end 1971 value.

However, reaction was not so enthusiastic in America. Wall Street prices fell, and some business economists complained that the Carter package was too weak. The dollar lost some of its European gains when markets opened in New York.

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The usually strong Deutsche mark and Swiss franc both dropped by more than 1 per cent against the dollar. The mark fell to 1.875 against the dollar in London, after a close on Friday of 1.8325. It is now at its lowest point since early last summer. The Swiss franc, at 1.7885 to the dollar, is at its weakest since July 1978.

Currency dealers were taken aback by the dollar's swift rise and had been expecting firmer support for the mark. However, the German central bank appeared to be resigned to letting the currency fall, at least at first.

The Japanese were more successful in resisting the dollar's rise. News of a possible rise in the discount rate and intervention by the Bank of Japan both helped. The yen closed at 249.4 to the dollar, after going briefly above the crucial 250 level at one stage.

Higher interest rates throughout the world are likely as a result of the American measures. Progressive tightening of the United States money policy over the past month has pushed up the cost of money in Europe and Japan as governments have tried to stop their currencies from falling.

Eurodollar rates soared to nearly 20 per cent yesterday afternoon, and further prime rate rises are expected to be announced in New York this week.

Wall Street down 23 points, said yesterday that the association would be considering the Debenhams offer carefully. In the past it had been against doctors having surgeries on commercial premises, but in the light of the inner city difficulty it would have to think about it seriously.

"We are prepared to look at our ethical position again and will see whether we can come to some arrangement. Doctors should be able to have their premises where people are continually coming and going, because it gives them an unfair advantage over other doctors."

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By Nicholas Timmins

British Rail was last night planning to deliver about 500 tons of steel to a West Midlands stockholder today after the High Court ruled that it must be handed over to its owners, Howard Perry and Co. Ltd.

The steel, worth £96,000, has been blacked by members of the National Union of Railwaymen, at depots in Wolverhampton and Brighly Hill, in support of the steel strike.

Mr. Jack Lawman, West Midlands district secretary of the NUR, said yesterday his members would comply with the court order. "I have instructed our members to start delivering the steel to Perry's tomorrow. What the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation do about it is another matter."

The steel union promptly promised that picketing of the stockholding firm would be stepped up. "We will do all in our power within the law to circumvent that steel moving."

Mr. Michael Leahy, district organizer with the ISTC said: "A spokesman for British Rail in the West Midlands admitted that there were several other consignments of steel, amounting to many hundreds of tons, tied up at railheads by the NUR's action. But no decision had yet been taken on whether these should also be delivered."

If there was a request for delivery, certainly we would give it consideration."

Mr. Richard Rawlin, executive director of the National Association of Steel Stockholders, said: "We will be examining the court's ruling very closely in the next few days. There was not a large amount of steel at railheads, but if the ruling could be taken as a precedent for steel blacked at

ports it could have considerable significance."

In his ruling, the judge, Vice-Chancellor Sir Robert Megarry, said Perry's were being denied most of their rights to ownership of the steel, including the right of possession of it, for an indefinite period.

"All concerned may take a practical view of the matter and think that, as only some 500 tons of steel is involved, and there appears to be small prospect of it being replaced, there would be little point in mounting industrial action over what may be regarded as a one-off job," he said.

Sir Robert said the order should not take effect until 10.30 today to allow BR time to appeal. But British Rail said later that "There seems little point in us appealing if our staff recognize the law and are going to obey it."

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Steel unions reject 'final' company pay offer

By Paul Routledge

Steel union negotiators last night unanimously rejected the British Steel Corporation's "final" pay offer of 14.4 per cent on pay and productivity, but left the executives of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation a free hand to determine the next move in the national strike that tomorrow enters its twelfth week.

The idea of a union ballot on the offer proposed by Sir Charles Villiers, chairman of British Steel, found no favour among the 60 members of the steel union negotiating team, and the package (details, page 2) was scrutinized "with disgust," according to one negotiator.

The consensus emerging from four hours of internal union talks was that the union should tell its members not to participate in the ballot on the corporation's offer. British Steel is poised to launch the ballot preliminary to reopening the steel work gates for a return to work.

But the final word has been left to a joint meeting of executives of the Confederation and the National Union of blastfurnacemen today when the prospect of mediation or some other form of third-party intervention in the dispute will also be discussed.

Sir Charles said on radio yesterday that the corporation would go ahead with a second ballot of its 135,000 striking workers if the unions rejected the offer and refused either to hold a ballot of their own or to go to arbitration.

Evidently embarrassed by union criticisms that too many ballot papers were available in the works to supplement those sent to the homes of the men in the last poll, Sir Charles said that "security papers" would be used this time to overcome any question of BSC employees voting twice.

Today's joint executive of the steelmen and blastfurnacemen will consider the options open before calling a joint recommendation to a full meeting of all the unions involved in the dispute tomorrow night.

Mr. William Sims, general secretary of the ISTC, said last night after his union's negotiating committee meeting: "Feelings are still running high against the attitude of the steel corporation. They have proved themselves inflexible in the face of our compromise offer put to them last week."

Other steel news, page 2

Court orders British Rail to deliver 500 tons of steel blacked by union

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By McGregor

March 17 as those governments a boycott of the Olympic envisage up existing world competitions which are in the sporting representatives of a those countries met.

Mr. Douglas Hurd, State at the Foreign Office, said that in addition to ready scheduled new competitions could be are not considering upics taking place at time as the Moscow be added. "These ons would be later, it much later."

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BL will impose pay deal on 85,000 workers

By Correspondent

BL is to impose its pay and productivity offer on 85,000 car workers. After eight hours, talks with union leaders broke down. The company requires adamant that it could not improve the offer. First made five months ago, of 5 to 10 per cent pay increases according to grade, with bonuses up to £15 a week for sweeping changes in working practices. Union leaders hinted that if the deal was forced through there would be spontaneous shop-floor disruption.

The value of British exports went over £4,000m for the first time and the deficit on trade in goods fell to £226m in February from £321m in January. The improvement was widespread among leading commodity groups, but despite considerable gains from North Sea oil it still looks as though there will be a deficit of about £2,000m during 1980.

The government grant to the Arts Council for the coming year will be £70m, an increase of £11.7m. The rise means that expenditure will be in line with this year's when allowance is made for inflation. The council said that reduction in services should be "containable".

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Blizzards and ice affect many roads

By Correspondent

On the second day of British Summer Time, blizzards and up to 8in of snow affected many parts of the country and motorists faced hazardous conditions in wide areas of the North. Police in mid-Wales gave a warning of frozen snow on high ground and in Lancashire gritting machines were used to keep traffic moving on the M61.

Negotiations between Mr. Rolf Schild, the British businessman, and kidnappers holding his daughter, Annabel, in Sardinia have reached a critical stage. His solicitor said in London. The British Vice-Consul in Cagliari said that Mrs. Daphne Schild, whose release eight weeks ago was announced by the Pope on Sunday, was unharmed but very distressed.

Mr. John James, a Berkshire businessman, has promised a £300,000 donation to Harefield Hospital, Uxbridge, so that heart transplant operations can continue. He said the money would help to balance up the £300,000 gift by Mr. David Robinson in Papworth Hospital.

France: Bratons are angered by apparent failure to stem oil pollution along their coastline.

British Lions: Beaumont, of England, captains tour party to South Africa; Tucker, of Ireland, a surprise selection at flank forward.

Gallantry medal for Gurkha hero

By Correspondent

A Gurkha soldier who overpowered and arrested eight attackers single-handedly in a Buckingham Palace today to receive the Queen's Gallantry Medal. Lance Corporal Aimsing Limbu is the first member of the Brigade of Gurkhas to receive the award. He was on border patrol in Hongkong when desperate illegal immigrants from China attacked him. But the attackers reckoned without his fighting spirit.

Letters: On BBC cuts, from Professor Angus McIntosh, and others; the Olympics, from Mr. Arthur Koesler, and others. Leading articles: Aid for Zimbabwe; United States economy; Air Council grant. Features: pages 12, 14. Bernard Levin looks at Cicero's letters; Pat Healy on the Social Security Bill; Prudence Glynn on Fashion. Obituary, page 15. Sir Cyril Harrison, Percy Belcher. Arts, page 10. John Russell Taylor on the work of Richard Zurich, and other exhibitions in London; Joan Perival on the Ballet Gala at the Coliseum; William Meun on a new play, and other concert reviews by Hilary Finch, Noel Goodwin, and Max Harrison. Sport, pages 8, 9. Rowing: Cambridge University issues official boat race challenge; Racing: Preview of the French Flat season; Football: Manchester City still in transfer market. Business News, pages 16-21. Stock Markets: Equities fell back on a general lack of interest although gilts picked up after the United States economic package. The FT index closed at 433.2 down 6.7.

Business features: Hugh Clayton on why the farmers are dissatisfied with the Tory Government's performance; Patricia Tisdall reports on the employers divided views on the strike reform proposals.

Classified advertisements: Appointments, pages 4, 22; Personnel, 23, 24; Sale Room and Antiques, 22.

Home News 2-4. Chess 15. Law Report 14. Snow reports 8. European News 6-8. Church 13. Sport 8, 9. Overseas News 6-8. Court 15. TV & Radio 23. Appointments 15-20. Crossword 24. Pamphlets 15. Theatres, etc 16. Arts 10. Diary 12. Parliament 12. 25 Years Ago 15. Bridge 15. Engagements 12. Sale Room 15. Universities 15. Business 15-21. Features 12, 14. Science 15. Weather 2.

Doctors offered surgeries in stores

By Annabel Ferriman

Health Services Correspondent

A visit to the doctor's surgery may be combined in future with a visit to the shops. The Debenhams group is offering doctors space for surgeries at 55 of its stores.

Not only would it be possible simultaneously to improve your wardrobe and ease your back-ache, but you may be able to have your corns fixed, your teeth examined and your eyes tested in the same store.

Debenhams is talking to dentists, opticians, chiropodists, accountants, lawyers, estate agents and pharmacists about renting space. In a successful experiment, opticians have rented offices at five stores and made more money per square foot than any other department.

The group, which has about 70 stores throughout Britain, has written to the British Medical Association pointing out that its scheme could help to meet the difficulties of high rents in inner city areas. It would let space at an economic rent for the doctors.

Debenhams for the company said: "We see it as the way the retail business is going. People are more and more choosy about where they go, so the more you offer, the more custom you get."

Dr. John Rawlin, secretary of the BMA, said yesterday that the association would be considering the Debenhams offer carefully. In the past it had been against doctors having surgeries on commercial premises, but in the light of the inner city difficulty it would have to think about it seriously.

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Promise of £100 flight to Hongkong

By Arthur Reed

Air Correspondent

British Caledonian Airways was selected from three competitors yesterday to break the British Airways' monopoly on the Hongkong route, and at once said it would offer a standby single fare of £100 when it begins services there in August.

The unsuccessful airlines were Laker Airways and Cathay Pacific, which although based in Hongkong is owned by a company in the City of London.

Cathay was particularly aggrieved at the decision by the Civil Aviation Authority in London, because at a hearing in Hongkong recently it was, with British Caledonian, granted a licence to the route by the local aviation authority.

The Civil Aviation Authority in its judgment in London considered that the route would not be economical for three airlines. It accepted British Caledonian's plan to satisfy both the business and tourist market using DC-10 airliners.

Cathay's Boeing 747 jumbo jets were too large for a rapid build-up of service, while Laker's proposal for a cheap Skytrain type of operation would have lacked a market.

Cathay Pacific said in London that it is considering an appeal. Sir Freddie Laker, chairman of Laker Airways, said he would appeal to the Secretary of State for Trade, Mr. John Nott, against the decision.

He said: "Once again we have to call into question the Government's declared policy of competition and free enterprise."

Chemical crash

A policeman and two farm-workers were treated for the effects of fumes after a lorry carrying chemicals, including methanol, and a bus crashed at Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne and Wear yesterday. A man and a woman, two of eight injured in the crash, were poorly last night.

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Farmers' leaders appealed to the Government yesterday for tough action against illegal French barriers against British lamb.

Mr Richard Butler, president of the National Farmers' Union of England and Wales, said later that British farmers might demand similar import protection against imports of food from France.

Such retaliation would, of course, counter the danger which the French are doing to the common agricultural policy," he said.

The union has claimed government aid of £2.3m to match what it seems as unfair

French subsidies to apple growers who sell in Britain.

Leaders of the NFU and its counterparts in Wales and Northern Ireland had asked for a meeting with ministers to insist that their claims for price rises were not submerged in bargaining in Brussels about Britain's contribution to the EEC budget or blunted by appeals from consumer groups and trade unions for a freeze on many farm prices.

The farmers' leaders met Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, and junior ministers

Mr Stephen Roberts, chair-

man of the Milk Marketing Board for England and Wales, said yesterday that dairy sales in 1978 had been much lower than they had been for many years.

"We do not want to see surpluses grow again", he said.

"But remember that we had a price freeze in the late 1960s which resulted in shortages in the early 1970s."

Milk output in the EEC had risen by 5 per cent in 1978 to 21 per cent in 1979. "The EEC Commission estimate for 1980 is down to 2 per cent. My message therefore is of the need not to overdo the squeeze."

Old alliance under strain

page 19

Old alliance under strain.
page 19

misleading myths about each other.

only traffic at the expense of
car and passenger fares.

Mr Stephen Roberts, chair-

£70m grant for Arts Council

the general announcements on public expenditure. The Arts Council gets earlier information, and I shall be glad to make a notification. I hope that next year there will be different circumstances and we shall be able to get a more realistic picture over the Arts.

Mr. Andrew Faulds, Opposition spokesman on the arts (*Warley, East, Lab.*)—Perhaps the Minister will temper his criticism and show more understanding because this group does not meet inflation rates and the likely inflation rate under this Government's policies.

Mr. Gordon St. John (Leeds, A.L.P.)—The Minister has said that in the period of cut back in Government expenditure, we can all be proud of the arts I have mentioned.

On sentence, I have no doubt but that the deal will be sorry for like most people—but when Mr. Faulds makes an act of compassion for his, I shall happily join him.

Business of arts

Government has made clear the
it intends to continue public
support for the arts, but I agree
that for any increase we must
leave the private sector. We
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ABSA estimates that private sup-
port runs at up to £5m a year.

I accept the suggestion that the
banks and oil companies should be
approached for their legitimate
not ill-gotten-gains and I am
happy to suggest, with Mr Hamilton
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Mr Robert Atkins (Preston, North-
west)—Does the minister think
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Mr Norman St John-Sievess—
The Government's drive to
theatre that the increase in private
sponsorship will help, not only
theatre, but the arts in general
in its economic difficulties.

Chancellor

Provision will similarly be made for the Lord Chancellor to assume responsibility for costs in criminal cases.

It is intended that the Lord Chancellor will also assume responsibility for both civil and criminal legal aid in Northern Ireland when this is administratively possible.

PLO must be in Middle East settlement It would be a great mistake to assume that a Middle East settlement was possible without taking into account the Palestine Liberation Organization, which was not such a much-feared terrorist organization as it is portrayed, Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said in question-and-answer time exchanges. Lord Byers, leader of the Liberal opposition, asked him if he regarded the PLO as a terrorist organization. Lord Carrington—I do not think the PLO as such is a terrorist organization. I think there are some elements of the PLO which in the past have been associated with the terrorists, but it would be a mistake to say that it is possible to get a settlement in the area without taking into account the

Commission's papers

The Government was aware that the disquiet had been expressed about the continuing confidentiality of records still in the hands of the Price Commission, Lord Trevelyan said in a vote in Waiting, said following consideration of amendments to the Competition Bill.

When the commission was abolished all its remaining files would become the property of the Secretary of State for Trade.

The Bill was read the third time and passed.

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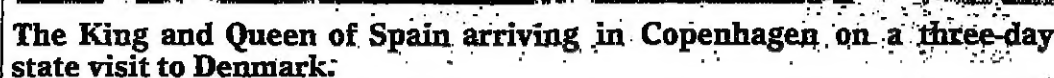
Avalanches kill three skiers in French Alps

Militants cl

Militants close ranks around M Marchais

But, conversely, the Communist attacks continue unabated against the Socialists, in general, and M. François Mitterrand, their leader, in particular—accused of having at least as many skeletons in his closet as the Communists. They accuse the Socialists of being the objective allies of the right and of being responsible for the show by the disaffection of the left-wing voters for the Communist candidates in local elections. This was clear from the seven cantonal contests which took place yesterday to return representatives to the councils of the commune or departmental assemblies, as it was in previous contests of the same kind earlier this year.

When, in the second ballot,



Bretons angered by apparent failure to stem oil pollution along their coastline

experiencing their third "black time" in 13 years and people who remember the Torrey Canyon in 1967 and the Amoco Cadiz two years ago claim that the heavy oil from the Tanio

So far the Ministry of the Environment has allocated one million francs to the work of cleaning up the Tanio oil, and further money is available if needed. Studies on the impact

Italian Government lays plans for its own fall

Bargaining in over-Schuld

Bargaining in critical stage over Schild abduction

rchais

Bomb damages unlisted Paris building

Nobody has yet claimed responsibility for the explosion. However, the Corsican nationalist movement had claimed responsibility for an explosion which damaged the lifts in the north-wing of the Paris Hotel de Ville the previous night.

last victims sought

Almeria, March 17.—Firemen are searching for five people feared killed today when a two-story building collapsed after an explosion in an adjoining chemist's shop in this southern Spanish town.

Afghan émigré leaders haggle over power while tribesmen fight

A Maulvi (an Islamic learned man) in one of the camps on the road to the Khyber Pass was frank about his political judgement "It might be better"

Russians deny gas attacks

Meanwhile, Soviet correspondents in Kabul today announced the Japanese decision to grant Pakistan \$1.5m (£680,000) aid for Afghan refugees. A Tass report des-

Chinese and Asean leaders differ over Soviet role

Although he publicly mentioned the Soviet threat in Manila, Mr Huang Hua refrained from doing so in Kuala Lumpur.

Indian Marxists campaign against 'authoritarian' rule

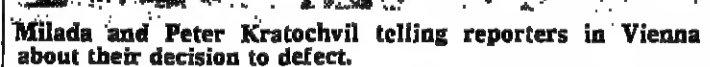
It should be seen, the party
id. as connected with the

General Zia admits plot happened

But President Zia, in response to a local reporter's question on the reports, acknowledged that the plot had been broken up and the ring-leader arrested.

Mr. Car has nam win in Puerto

to fraud, which camp denied. Early returns from Mississippi, South Carolina, Wyoming, which caucuses at the week provided no



Prague theatre stars defect

an actor and producer, plans to found together with his wife, aged 34, a new ensemble, called Theatre from Prague, which will tour the world with a programme of music and nation-

slovakia. "Repression gives rise to a new kind of concentration and a new kind of creative-ness", Mr Krasochvil believes. "But it means that what you think and write gets no further than the drawer of the desk

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The move, which was effective immediately, was made at the request of the government to enable the government to carry out its duties. — U.P. Express.

SEAS Australia wool dispute sues hardest test Fraser strategy

Our Correspondent
Sydney, March 17

It is now the Government's turn to be tested in the Australian wool dispute. The Government's strategy of using the wool industry as a bargaining chip in its negotiations with the United Kingdom has been put to a severe test. The Government's position is now under fire from the wool growers, who are demanding a more aggressive approach.

Int of Husain option peace with Israel

Ashe Brilliant
Sydney, March 17

King Hussein of Jordan has been seen as a potential mediator in the Arab-Israeli conflict. His position is seen as a key factor in the peace process. The Jordanian King's involvement is seen as a significant development in the negotiations.

Liberty keeps role of overseer after coup by group of soldiers

vil government quickly returns in Surinam

James Kilgus
Sydney, March 17

The military government in Surinam has quickly returned to civilian rule. The transition was seen as a positive step towards stability. The new government is expected to implement reforms and improve the country's economic situation.

frica church ler lodges sport protest

Our Correspondent
Johannesburg, March 17

A protest by the African Church has been held in Johannesburg. The protest was against the government's policies and the state of the country. The church leaders expressed their concerns and called for change.

Aid agency gives famine warning on Kampuchea

By Roger Berthoud

Kampuchea faces another potentially catastrophic food shortage unless international aid is maintained. The United Nations World Food Programme has issued a warning. The situation is dire, and immediate action is required to prevent a famine.

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Papua moderate takes power

From Douglas Aitken
Melbourne, March 17

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Ready for hand-over: Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, meeting Lord Soames (right), the Governor of Southern Rhodesia, at the Foreign Office yesterday to discuss the final

stage of the hand-over of power in an independent Zimbabwe, including the question of economic aid. Britain is ready to help the country both directly and in mobilizing international assist-

ance. Decisions on longer term capital aid will be taken after Mr Robert Mugabe's government has drawn up its programme. An aid mission will go to Salisbury in April, after independence.

Rhodesia sets free most martial law detainees

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, March 17

All but one of the detainees being held under Southern Rhodesia's emergency powers have been released. The remaining detainee is being held in custody. The release is seen as a positive step towards normalcy.

Several hundred detainees being held under the 30-day order in terms of the emergency powers regulations were also in the process of being set free. Three of these detainees, however, are to appear in court during the next few days.

The decision on releasing the last remaining detainees and the imminent lifting of martial law was taken by Lord Soames, the Governor, (at present on a brief visit to London) in consultation with Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister designate.

Martial law was progressively introduced during the last two years as the guerrilla war spread across the country. By late last year around 90 per cent of the country was under martial law, which gave the security forces powers to take whatever steps they considered necessary to "suppress terrorism".

Under the regulations a dusk-to-dawn curfew was imposed almost everywhere, but this has been abandoned in many parts of the country. The release of the detainees and the planned lifting of martial law are further indications that the country is rapidly returning to normality after seven years of escalating civil war.

Sponsorship - A Personal Way to Help.

Without your help, this child faces a bleak future. There is little hope for him and the many other children like him, living in the poorer countries of the world.

But you can give him a chance. Yes, you personally. By sponsoring a child like this through ActionAid, you can give him the opportunity to help himself. To help his family. And to help his whole community.

The cost? Just £6.50 a month - which may not buy much in this country, but can supply a child in the Third World with the basic education and practical training that's so desperately needed. As well as food and clothing when necessary.

An investment that will help the community itself to support its own children in the future.

The Need is Urgent.

ActionAid is the sponsorship programme of Action in Distress.

Helping literally thousands of children, living in underdeveloped areas of the World.

ActionAid works to tackle the root cause of the problem. Analysing the needs of the children, and seeing what can be done to improve their situation permanently.

Offering long-term assistance both to individual children and to their communities.

Your Contribution.

Every single penny you give goes to the programme benefiting your child and your child's community.

In each country, ActionAid has a highly experienced and dedicated staff on the spot.

Working together with the community so that every programme is precisely structured to meet local needs. In this way, the children are given the kind of education, training and

assistance which will help them become valuable members of their own society. To play their part in the vital struggle for self-reliance.

How Sponsorship Works.

Ideally, sponsorship is a long-term commitment - usually lasting several years. But should you be unable to continue, we will make sure that the child does not suffer in any way.

Details of individual children are sent to London from the appropriate overseas office of ActionAid.

As a sponsor you'll receive a case history, complete with a photo of the child you can help, and brief details of his or her background and circumstances.

If you want to, you can send letters to "your child". These will then be translated and explained by ActionAid staff.

Initially you'll receive occasional drawings from the child.

Plus regular reports on the child's progress.

When the child learns to write, ActionAid staff will help him or her to send letters to you.

You'll be able to learn at first hand what life is really like in a very different culture to our own. And just how your contribution is helping your child and his community.

Please help. We're relying on you. And so are the children.

ActionAid.

Each child sponsored is a child with hope.

ActionAid Hon. Treasurer, the Rt. Hon. Christopher Chataway
To: ActionAid, Dept. 04414, c/o Midland Bank Limited,
P.O. Box 12C, 52 Oxford Street, London W1A 1EG.
Tel: 01-226 3383.
I wish to be a sponsor. Please send me details of a child on your waiting list.
I enclose £6.50 for my first month's help. ☐
Please send me general details about ActionAid. ☐
I cannot sponsor a child at present but enclose a gift of: £5 ☐ £10 ☐ £25 ☐ £50 ☐ £100 ☐ £200 ☐
Please make cheques payable to ActionAid Appeal.
Name _____ (Block letters please)
Address _____
04414



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The Volvo has an average life expectancy of 17.9 years.

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Longer than Mercedes. Longer than Volkswagen.

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Every weld on the Volvo's body is strong enough to support the weight of the entire car.

The zinc coating we use is about 4 times thicker than that used by many other car makers.

(Which means 4 times more protection from rust.)

Our bumpers can soak up 3 mph knocks without damage to the bodywork.

And every working day, we take engines at random from the production line and give them 7 hours bench testing at full loads.

We even use twin fan belts to halve the risk of being caught with a broken one.

Not surprisingly, in survey after survey, the Volvo emerges as one of the most trouble-free cars on the road.

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Name _____
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VOLVO. A CAR WITH STANDARDS.

America is in a conservative mood, and this man is its natural standard bearer

Who is afraid of Governor Ronald Reagan?

William Rees-Mogg, in Chicago,
watches the Republican front runner
who must persuade voters
that he is not a second Goldwater

US Elections



At 11.30 last Sunday morning I sat down to lunch at the Lancers Restaurant in Schaumburg, a drab and anonymous middle-class suburb to the west of Chicago. At my table were a number of youngish Americans, and a secret service man. The Americans had paid a minimum of \$100 per couple to attend. The speaker, and candidate in the Illinois primaries next Tuesday, was Governor Ronald Reagan.

I was sitting at a table next to the top table, and was able to observe Mr Reagan closely. He seemed perfectly fit. He does not look his age, which is 69; he has a good colour; he appears healthy and alert. When he rose to speak, he did so in a relaxed way, with none of that over-excitement which comes to many candidates in the heat and exhaustion of a campaign. His opening statement was rather flat; from my own experience, I judged that he had reached the stage of being slightly bored by his own speeches, a fatigue which comes to almost everybody who speaks repeatedly on the same subjects in a short time.

After a short introduction, in which he criticized President Carter's counter-inflation programme, Mr Reagan moved straight to questions. He was asked seven questions, though one was followed by tiresome and confused supplementaries. Three questions were on economics, two on politics, one was on a mixture of defence and economics, and one social.

I had expected Governor Reagan's style of answering questions to be skilful. He mixes humour in his replies, in a way that is comparatively rare in American politics. His actual jokes are fairly amusing but sound as if he had made them before: "You can't rob Peter to pay Paul. We're all Pauls nowadays. Peter went bankrupt a long time ago." It is not too funny, and it does not

sound very new, but it helps to break up the seriousness of the reply. As well as the jokes, there is a self-deprecating irony which is pleasant. There were two points I had not expected. Even though questions can be foreseen, replies to questions cannot be made from cards, but have to come straight out of the candidate's mind. Governor Reagan's acting experience may make his replies deceptively agreeable, but the replies are clearly his own. He has a much better grasp of detail, and particularly of statistical detail, than I had supposed. He gave a thorough reply, for instance, to a question on the falling level of American savings.

He said that the rate of saving had been falling for 30 years, that the Japanese rate was no less than seven times the American, and the German three times. No doubt the subject has come up before, and he has a specific proposal to encourage savings, which is to exempt savings bank interest from income tax. Yet on this and other questions he showed a considerable precision of statement.

The other point which surprised me was that the questions and the answers were so similar to British experience. Energy, inflation, savings, defence, social service, are all questions which arise in British politics. The answers which Governor Reagan gave were also very much in line with British Conservative answers. On inflation, his first step would be to freeze new hiring of federal civil servants. He would reduce bureaucracy by transferring programmes back to the states. He believes in raising productivity by raising incentives. He wants to protect people who are being pushed into higher tax brackets by the inflationary process. He wants to move to a balanced budget. "Balancing a budget is

like protecting your virtue, you have to learn to say 'no'."

The general fear in Britain, and about two-thirds of the United States, is that Governor Reagan is some sort of wild extremist. On domestic policy he is no more, and no less, extreme than Mrs Thatcher, at least on the evidence of this meeting. Those who regard Mrs Thatcher as a dangerous extremist will, of course, regard Mr Reagan as one. But those who regard Mrs Thatcher's policy as a legitimate and rational Conservative option should, I think, take the same view of Governor Reagan. In foreign policy, he believes in peace through strength, and argues that Russian aggression has been encouraged by American defence weakness. That, too, is a view of the world not unlike Mrs Thatcher's.

There were indeed points at which his replies were moderate when he could have picked up a round of applause by taking a more sharply conservative line. He was asked about people on unemployment benefits who turn down the offer of jobs. He went into some detail to explain the welfare trap in which unemployed men, particularly with big families, can actually lose money if they take a job. He thought that people on unemployment benefits "I can't afford to take a job, I can't afford to do this to my family." He blamed the system, not the individual.

I came away from the lunch reassured about the prospect of a Reagan candidacy, which

whatever the outcome of the Illinois primary, is now nearly certain. In British terms Mr Reagan is an orthodox conservative, not particularly extreme, certainly not an intellectual, but a reasonable man, with an agreeable campaign style, humorous and probably rather saner than most candidates. He is rather too defensive about minor points of criticism, and overdid his explanation of his experience as Governor of California. Whether his conservative policies can be made to work in the United States, or indeed whether Mrs Thatcher's will work in Britain, is still an open question.

On the Saturday morning I had been to a much more dramatic meeting, given in a large church, once a synagogue, on Chicago's South Side, the black area. The meeting was held by Mr Jesse Jackson, who was on the balcony with Martin Luther King when he was assassinated. His organization

is called "Push", and it is devoted to black self-advancement. He had invited Mr John Anderson to address it, and as a Republican candidate in the primaries. Mr Anderson may well win in Illinois, but saving a miracle he cannot get enough delegates to match Mr Reagan at the convention. The main speaker was the Vice-President, Mr Walter Mondale.

The warm-up speeches, mainly from black candidates, and the choir, including the South Side Catholic choir singing "Young, Gifted and Black" were very moving. It is impossible to attend such an occasion without great sympathy for the struggle of black people for their place in American society. Mr Jesse Jackson is himself a brilliant speaker, much given, like Governor Reagan, to one-liners, though his are more moralistic. He emphasized "the correlation between discipline and success" and said: "Do not give any politician a vote he has not earned." He wants to build up black electoral power to help black causes.

Mr Anderson did not seem to be winning many black votes. He is a strong speaker, in a preaching style, with a good voice and an emphatic manner. He failed, however, to reach a good relationship with his audience. He started with a long quotation from a black judge which implied that he was walking with destiny. It may have been a brilliant move, but I much preferred

Governor Reagan's rueful approach to his own candidacy to Mr Anderson's sprightly belief that he has God as his campaign manager. It seemed the 2,000 blacks felt some of the same reservations. Mr Anderson was warmly applauded when he stood up, and hardly applauded at all when he sat down. "A new politics," he said, "is struggling to be born." Perhaps it is.

Vice-President Mondale was a very different and much more sympathetic speaker. He reminded me of a younger Hubert Humphrey, who came from the same state, Minnesota, and was indeed his first political patron. The President's rose-garden strategy has kept the President in the rose garden and sent out the Vice-President to battle for them both in the primaries. He has done so well that Kennedy or no Kennedy, he must himself be a very strong prospect for the Democratic nomination in 1984.

Mr Mondale made specific claims suited to his audience. President Carter has, he said, appointed more black judges than all previous presidents put together. He went on to make more idealistic claims, including one in which, I think, there is some truth. "The United States was seen as a cynical, uncaring, manipulative nation—that has been turned around." It seems to me that President Carter is indeed seen as an idealist by the rest of the world. When Mr Mondale went on to say, "We have experienced and compassionate leadership, leadership that has proven itself," the word "compassionate" was true, the word "proven" did not.

In today's Illinois primaries, Mr Anderson should do well; he attracts independents and the young, and he is the local candidate. That will not prevent Governor Reagan reaching the Republican convention with



In all probability, a handsome surplus of votes over the bare majority required to nominate. That is the arithmetical truth which former President Ford recognized in deciding not to enter the race.

President Carter will almost certainly win the Democratic primary in Illinois, though the inflation policy is not popular, and Senator Kennedy seems to be recovering support in the final days. It is still theoretically possible for Senator Kennedy to win the nomination, but he is not trusted, even by those who share his views, and President Carter will probably win. A Carter-Reagan race is therefore nearly a certainty.

To win, President Carter has to retain the confidence he still enjoys, but he has to do that in the face of rising inflation and rising interest rates, undoubtedly a most damaging economic record. At present he would still win, for he would still carry the industrial heartland of the midwest and east of America, as well as most of his native south. He also still has the benefit of national unity over the Tehran hostages. To win, Governor Reagan has to persuade the electors of the

heartland that he is not a second Goldwater, as to be feared, but a responsible conservative—a conservative who is a standard-bearer.

I do not know if he comes the fear the way When I was in the California and Utah, that Mr Reagan was a romantic hero, but supported on his co-viewers, and was not by his political opponents. I found a University, I found a shift of view. To a President Carter, I do not think I would not be so. President Carter's race is a mixed one, but am not afraid of Mr R seems a perfectly balanced act of national unity decided on whether, more angry at the Carter or afraid of the Reagan

Clothing grants for children and help with fuel bills for about 10,000 pensioners and disabled people will be withdrawn this November unless the Government announces changes today when the Social Security Bill has its report stage in the Commons.

Those are some of the changes proposed under the Bill as it stands. The aim is to reduce substantially the amount of discretion in the supplementary benefits scheme, which has led to exceptional needs payments becoming so common that they can no longer be reasonably described as "exceptional".

For example, 370,000 such payments were made in 1966, or 15 per cent of the total number of cases on the supplementary benefits books. By 1975, the number of payments had increased to 945,000 and the proportion in 35 per cent. Last year, there were 1,199,000 payments.

This dramatic growth reflects partly the accepted fact that supplementary benefit rates are too low to allow people depending on them for long periods to save enough to replace major items, such as furniture, clothing for growing children, and household equipment. But it also reflects pressure from the poverty lobby to extend discretionary payments.

Because social security staff have total discretion in awarding or refusing exceptional needs payments, wide variations have grown up in different areas. Officers in Glasgow and other industrial cities with large

Fears of cuts in special grants

working class populations are more likely to be generous than those dealing with a much more mixed population.

The Supplementary Benefits Commission, which is being abolished by the Bill, believes that the growing use of discretion has led to considerable difficulties for local staff in discriminating between cases without using moral judgments.

The Bill proposes that exceptional needs payments will be governed by strict regulations, which are still being drafted. Although Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, has indicated that final decisions on grants for clothing and shoes have not yet been made, the areas the regulations will cover suggest that they will be severely restricted. The Child Poverty Action Group, which points out today that 392,000 payments were made for clothing and shoes in 1978, is urging the Government to consult widely before finalising the regulations. At present the Government proposes to stop making exceptional needs payments to people

not receiving supplementary benefits. That, however, might be considered too drastic a change, particularly when a significant number of disabled people and pensioners now receive the payments although they do not draw supplementary benefit.

Both groups are, in fact, entitled to supplementary benefit but instead claim other benefits. They include a large number of retirement pensioners who are better off claiming rent and rate rebates on top of their pensions, instead of supplementary benefit. There are also a number of disabled or chronically sick people claiming invalidity pensions, whose rates are above the basic supplementary benefit level, but below the long term rate which will be paid after one year instead of 10 under the terms of the Bill.

About 10,000 elderly and disabled people would lose any right to needs payments unless the Government decides to change the Bill. The review of the supplementary benefits scheme recommended that payments should be limited to people entitled to benefit, instead of to anyone not in full time work, as at present. But the Bill proposed a tighter restriction: to those actually receiving supplementary benefit. The Supplementary Benefits Commission is in the process of changes from a totally discretionary system to one operating on precise regulations is not an attempt to cut the number of exceptional needs payments. There is no provision for saving on them in the financial memorandum to the Bill.

But the CPAG and other groups fear that a cut in the regulations are drawn up with no outside advice. They will be taking part in a lobby at the Commons today organized by the National Campaign Against Social Security Cuts.

Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

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Some people think we only operate to Holland.

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Your usual Travel Agent has up-to-the-minute information on all the best KLM schedules and fares.



Nourishing food for thought

I must admit that when I received an invitation to meet the Venezuelan Minister of State for the Development of Human Intelligence in the House of Commons last Friday, my first reaction was that someone was playing a joke.

In fact, Dr Luis Machado, a cabinet minister in the Christian Democratic government which came to power last year, is a serious and committed politician who believes that human intelligence is the world's most important, and under-exploited, natural resource.

In his words: "If it is possible to develop everyone's intelligence systematically, and I am convinced that it is possible, then we have the biggest revolution in the history of our hands. Understanding of science is then no longer the privilege of a minority but the right of all."

Dr Machado is in London to publicise the English translation of his book, *The Right to be Intelligent*, which is being published by Mr Robert Maxwell's Pergamon Press. In the book he argues strongly that intelligence is not a matter of heredity and can only be developed through education.

In his year in office, he has made an impressive start on practising what he preaches. Mothers of newborn babies, members of the armed forces

and public service workers in Venezuela are all now receiving lessons in developing their intelligence. Dr Machado has also succeeded in getting the right to think added to the United Nations charter of human rights.

The Venezuelan programme uses the techniques developed by Dr Edward de Bono, the British expert in lateral thinking and director of the Cognitive Research Trust. Dr de Bono is delighted that Vene-



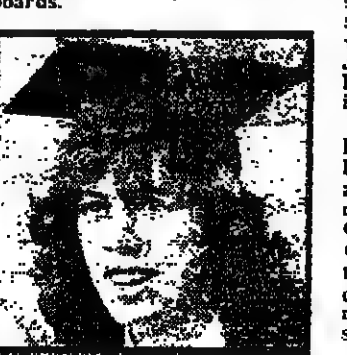
zuela is the first country in the world to put the subject of thinking on to the school curriculum. He would dearly like to see a similar programme adopted in Britain but accepts that there might be resistance there to the idea of ministerial intelligence or thinking with its 1984 connotations. Certain aspects of Dr Machado's approach might well appeal to Mrs Thatcher, however. He provides an answer to Marx's ideology. He suggests Robert Maxwell. "Individuals can be taught to develop their intellectual ability to resolve their problems, they no longer need to look blindly to a collective body."

Perhaps we can expect to see some appropriately intellectual figure transferred to this interesting new post in the next cabinet reshuffle.

If Sherlock Holmes's fictional residence at 221B Baker Street had ever existed, it would presumably be commemorated by a plaque somewhere on the south slopes of Abbey House, the headquarters of the Abbey National Building Society. The society wants to replace the undistinguished 1930-ish building with what will presumably be an equally undistinguished 1980-ish building. Local residents are arguing that the redevelopment will be a waste of scarce funds which would otherwise be available for mortgages and that the society, which ought to know better, has failed to consult them. Curious, is it not, Watson?

Hats off

The photograph below, which shows Miss Susan Charman, an undergraduate at St Hugh's College, chronicles a small revolution that has just taken place at Oxford. It is only in the last three weeks that female members of the university have been allowed to discard their traditional soft caps (described by Miss Charman as "like dead pancakes") and wear mortar boards.



Susan Charman, mortar board pioneer

The decision to change the rules about academic headgear has been taken because Oxford is about to have its first female proctor, Miss Theodora Cooper, also from St Hugh's. As all Oxonians know the main function of proctors is constantly to doff their caps at degree ceremonies. Realizing the difficulties of doffing dead pancakes, the Vice-Chancellor has decreed that Miss Cooper and all others of her sex may now wear mor-

tar boards, or square caps as they are technically described, on all formal academic occasions.

Miss Charman, who is in her second year, is delighted by the ruling and is looking forward to wearing her mortar board when she takes her final examinations next year. She ought to be warned, however, that in his official announcement the Vice-Chancellor made clear that female members of the university would be expected "to observe the customs associated with the wearing of soft caps," an ominous phrase which baffles both me and the university's information officer.

At Cambridge, women have had the right to wear mortar boards for a long time, but they are seldom seen on the heads of undergraduates. Unlike at Oxford, students are not required to dress up in *sub fusc* to take exams, and at degree ceremonies they are simply told to carry their caps by their left sides.

They still take sartorial matters seriously in the Fens, however. Apparently if any girl is spotted at a degree ceremony without her cap or wearing improper attire like boots, the praefector of her college has to offer a bottle of port to the proctors.

unexploded wartime have surfaced with a co of old beer bins, a pair and a bag of cement.

During the war Sull was a base for RAF boats. One aircraft which at its moorings was shot have been armed with 250lb bombs. When that known, other wartime t the Vos surfaced and a team led by Lieutenant mander John Belchamber to investigate. They loca sunken flying boat but a home.

Hardly were their suits dry, however, wh shipping off. Shetland alerted to look out for s on the loose which had spotted by a trawler. Shetland trawlers down reggie explosive and found it was a harmless pr model.

No one is watching the i Monday evening comedy. Yes Minister more atten than Mr Paul Channon, ster of State at the Civil vice Department. Every morning, I am reliably formed, he delights in e officials by referring to collectively as Sir Bump the name of the experie permanent secretary at Department of Administ Affairs, around whose rela with his new minister series is based.

Ian Brad

LONDON DIARY

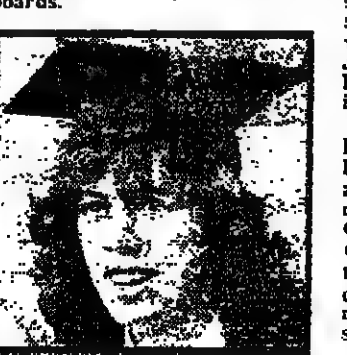
So you ever worry, Donell... that they will be her only growth spurt?



zuela is the first country in the world to put the subject of thinking on to the school curriculum. He would dearly like to see a similar programme adopted in Britain but accepts that there might be resistance there to the idea of ministerial intelligence or thinking with its 1984 connotations. Certain aspects of Dr Machado's approach might well appeal to Mrs Thatcher, however. He provides an answer to Marx's ideology. He suggests Robert Maxwell. "Individuals can be taught to develop their intellectual ability to resolve their problems, they no longer need to look blindly to a collective body."

Perhaps we can expect to see some appropriately intellectual figure transferred to this interesting new post in the next cabinet reshuffle.

The photograph below, which shows Miss Susan Charman, an undergraduate at St Hugh's College, chronicles a small revolution that has just taken place at Oxford. It is only in the last three weeks that female members of the university have been allowed to discard their traditional soft caps (described by Miss Charman as "like dead pancakes") and wear mortar boards.



Susan Charman, mortar board pioneer

The decision to change the rules about academic headgear has been taken because Oxford is about to have its first female proctor, Miss Theodora Cooper, also from St Hugh's. As all Oxonians know the main function of proctors is constantly to doff their caps at degree ceremonies. Realizing the difficulties of doffing dead pancakes, the Vice-Chancellor has decreed that Miss Cooper and all others of her sex may now wear mor-

tar boards, or square caps as they are technically described, on all formal academic occasions.

Miss Charman, who is in her second year, is delighted by the ruling and is looking forward to wearing her mortar board when she takes her final examinations next year. She ought to be warned, however, that in his official announcement the Vice-Chancellor made clear that female members of the university would be expected "to observe the customs associated with the wearing of soft caps," an ominous phrase which baffles both me and the university's information officer.

At Cambridge, women have had the right to wear mortar boards for a long time, but they are seldom seen on the heads of undergraduates. Unlike at Oxford, students are not required to dress up in *sub fusc* to take exams, and at degree ceremonies they are simply told to carry their caps by their left sides.

They still take sartorial matters seriously in the Fens, however. Apparently if any girl is spotted at a degree ceremony without her cap or wearing improper attire like boots, the praefector of her college has to offer a bottle of port to the proctors.

unexploded wartime have surfaced with a co of old beer bins, a pair and a bag of cement.

During the war Sull was a base for RAF boats. One aircraft which at its moorings was shot have been armed with 250lb bombs. When that known, other wartime t the Vos surfaced and a team led by Lieutenant mander John Belchamber to investigate. They loca sunken flying boat but a home.

Hardly were their suits dry, however, wh shipping off. Shetland alerted to look out for s on the loose which had spotted by a trawler. Shetland trawlers down reggie explosive and found it was a harmless pr model.

No one is watching the i Monday evening comedy. Yes Minister more atten than Mr Paul Channon, ster of State at the Civil vice Department. Every morning, I am reliably formed, he delights in e officials by referring to collectively as Sir Bump the name of the experie permanent secretary at Department of Administ Affairs, around whose rela with his new minister series is based.

Ian Brad



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D FOR ZIMBABWE

James has very properly put Zimbabwe's needs before Lord Carrington's. The British Government is a national government, and Mr Mugabe's conciliatory and conciliatory decision upon taking up the truce, Britain should be generous up to a scale which would ensure that Zimbabwe's social changes may be achieved by the new regime. The strategy is sound, but is economically and politically in no position to put large sums involved or more than a modest contribution to an international effort. It is here at stake, and it is not to understand the aid and processes involved. The first aid that a war-torn country requires in the immediate aftermath is technical. Having spent 30 million on training in which has enabled the army to choose its own officers and the civil service to choose its own staff, Britain should agree to integrate the one-way because success in so will obviate any immediate of another conflict break; the army is to symbolize national unity on a new basis. Zimbabwe's army is also a premium. So this is an investment. The new army

as a peacetime establishment may need some new equipment, but the country is awash with arms, and presumably there is no intention to prepare it for anything more than a defensive and security role.

First aid is needed to achieve two other desiderata. One is the resettlement of the refugees from the war on their old, or on new, farmland. This is a matter, in terms of external aid, of transport, housing, medical aid, and other ingredients of normal and well-understood "disaster aid". Britain can afford to supply personnel and finance some supplies for this purpose.

The other need, and it is urgent, is the provision of employment. Continued large-scale unemployment will be destabilizing and prolong the banditry. Mr Mugabe must find jobs for his party henchmen and for those of his warriors who do not stay in the new army: he will have to cut into white employment in some sectors to do so. But as he will be aware, most of the unemployed have to be absorbed by reviving industry, manufacturing, mining, commerce and commercial (cash crop) agriculture.

It is difficult to see how Britain can assist very far in this latter process. There will be talk of investment, standby credits, and international loans. What this amounts to is underwriting Zimbabwe's budgetary deficit, and balance of payments deficit, until the country is paying its

way—which inherently it is capable of doing. But the sum involved is not yet known, though the aid mission which Sir Ian Gilmour promises may identify it. It is sure to be beyond Britain's ability to meet single-handedly: it amounts to paying for those of Zimbabwe's urgent imports which Zimbabwe cannot pay for—and even if Britain put up all or some of the money to finance such "unrequited exports", it is doubtful if British industry could supply all the equipment. To put up British foreign exchange to enable Zimbabwe to buy elsewhere simply adds to our present difficulties—and inflation. The days when we could subsidize an economy like Malawi's, even, are over.

Mr Mugabe has shown his sensitivity to Zimbabwe's credit rating by promising to service its legitimate debts. He is wise, for the only source of sizeable standby credits and soft loans would seem to be from the international institutions, at least initially. Whether they can move fast enough is a question. It is no part of Britain's obligations to guarantee those bonds which during UDI became speculative counters. What is needed is a swift practical analysis, and an international programme based on it. And here Britain which had primary responsibility for the constitutional moves to bring Zimbabwe into being, can play a leading diplomatic role in organizing support for its economy.

Propaganda and the Olympics

From Mr Arthur Koestler

Sir, May I suggest that the BBC show one of the excellent filmed reports of the 1936 Nazi Olympic Games in Berlin for the benefit of those innocents who still maintain that sporting events have no political propaganda value.

Yours,
ARTHUR KOESTLER
8 Montpelier Square, SW7.
March 14.

From Professor Sir Cecil Parrott

Sir, Some of your readers may not be aware that the Eastern European press gives wide coverage daily to the protests made by some Western Olympic athletes or officials against the proposed boycott. It is even claimed that in some cases dissenting athletes have deliberately sent copies of their letters or articles to the Soviet press itself. Thus throughout Eastern Europe such athletes have become unwittingly—and I fear sometimes willingly—front-line runners in propaganda for the Soviet Union and everything hateful connected with it in an area where the inhabitants live in a state of subjugation to it.

Yours faithfully,
CECIL PARROTT,
The Old Vicarage,
Abbeydale,
Leicester.
March 13.

From Mr John A. Murphy

Sir, Prior to the last general election, Prime Minister-elect Thatcher was telling us that freedom of choice for the individual was an essential of the British way of life. I presume this is still the same today, with the exception of those potential Olympic athletes and Olympic travellers who happen to be employed by the Civil Service or the Armed Forces.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN A. MURPHY,
73 Elm Drive,
North Harrow,
Middlesex.
March 12.

From Mr J. M. Bouse

Sir, Are the athletes in favour of participating in the Moscow Olympic Games, the British Government's disservice?

Yours faithfully,
J. M. BOUSE,
32 Blacker Place,
Crawley,
Oxford.
March 12.

Christians in Africa

From the Bishop of London and others

Sir, We have heard with distress and surprise that Bishop Desmond Tutu's passport has been withdrawn by the South African authorities, and we would like to know why. He is known to each of us to be a highly respected internationally as a man of integrity.

An act of this sort can only damage the South African Government's standing in the world, and we would like to know why. He is known to each of us to be a highly respected internationally as a man of integrity.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD LONDON, DAVID LIVERPOOL,
ROBERT ABBOTT, STANLEY WIMBORNE,
RONALD BROWNING, WILSON,
JOHN B. EVANS, GEORGE,
DAVID GILFORD, PARRINDER,
JOHN HERSTON, STEPHEN REPTON,
ELIZABETH, NERVYN,
JOHN KENYON, HANNAH STANTON,
LYNDAL LAMBERT, JOHN WINTON,
KEVIN LEE, JAMES,
Barton Street,
Westminster, SW1.
March 17.

Islamic Cultural Centre

From the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt

Sir, David Watt's report "London Muslims in bitter dispute", published on February 18, has given the wrong impression and distorted the image of a distinguished Egyptian theologian and religious scholar, by name Dr Zaki Badawi, the Director of the Islamic Cultural Centre in London.

Furthermore, it has done some damage to the reputation of the Egyptian theologians and Imams who are working with him at the centre, if not to the Egyptian religious scholars in general. It is this fact which has impelled the Egyptian religious scholars and Imams working at the centre to call on me to clarify any confusion which might have arisen as a result of Mr Watt's report, in the minds of The Times' readers who are interested in Islam.

Dr Badawi combines a distinguished and varied qualification with a rich experience which has made him keenly aware of the position of Muslims not only in the Arab world but also in Asia and Africa.

When Egypt proposed the name of Dr Badawi to run the centre, his proposal was unanimously approved by the Council of Muslim Ambassadors in London. In choosing Dr Badawi and his Egyptian colleagues at the centre, Egypt aimed at serving the cause of Islam and meeting the religious requirements of a large Muslim community who fortunately enjoy full freedom of worship in a country which has a rare and well known record of tolerance at all levels.

Egypt is a founder member of the centre and it played the principal role in setting it up as a religious establishment subject to British laws. She still maintains her ownership of the land on which the centre was built in Regent's Lodge, Egypt, which has provided the centre with religious Imams since its inception, will continue its support to the centre. She will always endeavour to help the centre to steer away from any political currents or any subsidiary matters which would deflect it from fulfilling its noble task to the service of the Muslim community in the United Kingdom.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW H. DAWSON,
Department of Geography,
The University,
St Andrews,
March 6.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BBC cuts: a question of priorities

From Professor Angus McIntosh

Sir, For years now I have watched with admiration the profoundly important and growing contribution made by BBC Scotland through its television and radio school programmes. Some measure of the official reception to these is provided by the approval of them by local educational authorities, one result of which is that Scottish schools are now probably the best equipped in the world to receive and record such things. Teachers themselves have freely acknowledged the great value of having these programmes at their professional disposal.

The school department offers a wealth of programmes which have created as nothing else could an increased awareness of Scotland, its history and traditions, its literature and music, its languages and ways of speech. This has influenced not only children but teachers, and not only teachers but many thousands of others in Scotland, to say nothing of all those Scots in England and overseas to whom these things lie near the heart.

It is therefore with alarm that I now learn that BBC Scotland proposes in less than a month to cut by 25 per cent the modest 2 per cent of its resources at present allocated to these programmes and with total incredulity that it intends a year later to cease to fund them at all, in contravention of the BBC charter itself.

Can it be that, though I have tried to obtain the true facts, I have been wildly misinformed? If not, I should be glad to hear, along with your many Scottish readers everywhere, to say nothing of all others who care about education, some explanation of these unbelievable proposals. I hope the Board of Governors will inform us (a) why BBC Scotland is, as it would appear, uniquely singled out for the withdrawal of funds for schools broadcasting of its own creation, and (b) why there should have been no consultation with the Schools Broadcasting Councils and against their views.

I shall be delighted if it turns out that, beneath their gruff exterior, these latter-day hammers of the Scots have some even better alternative educational programme in mind about which they are too modest to say anything. If it is not so, the disastrous long-term results do not bear thinking about.

Yours faithfully,
ANGUS MCINTOSH,
32 Blacker Place,
Crawley,
Oxford.
March 7.

From Mr Melvyn Bragg

Sir, The cuts which the BBC feels obliged to make are clearly harmful to interests—especially in music and education—which, ironically, it has served so well. The crucial point to be made however is not whether one cut is more valid than another, but whether any of them should be necessary.

The cuts are being made because the BBC's licence fee has been allowed to lag behind its requirements. For over 50 years this unique method of funding, as enabled the BBC to be popular, authoritative and the world leader in the making and broadcasting of quality programmes. Yet, ignoring all this, ignoring the fact that the public

London medical schools

From Professor G. P. Lewis

Sir, I feel compelled to make an immediate response to the report of the Flowers committee on London medical education. I am appalled at the suggestion in the report that the Institute of Basic Medical Sciences should be expelled from the university and that the established university staff should be made to relinquish their university status. What is worse is that no reason is given for suggesting this unprecedented step of disavowing the Institute. The Institute has been at the service of over 50 university staff at the Institute of Basic Medical Sciences.

It is unlikely that the reason for the recommendation could be poor academic performance. The Institute has shown an excellent research record over its 29 years. Three members have been elected to the Royal Society during that time. The work of the Institute has been internationally recognized in the fields of immunology, arthritis, arterial thrombosis and asthma. Last Friday (March 7), the BBC reported on television and radio the results of experiments carried out here at the Institute of Basic Medical Sciences in collaboration with Imperial College which have led to the latest breakthrough in the development of therapeutic agents to counteract asthma. To destroy an institute which is so productive of high quality research simply because it does not fit into a theoretical geographical pattern would not only be unjust but would be in direct conflict with one of the principles of a university, to encourage the development of original research.

It is also seems unlikely that the reason for the committee's recommendation is financial. The Institute of Basic Medical Sciences share of the University Grants Committee money appropriated to London University, about £150m, is small (at present about £400,000) planned to

Out in the open

From Mr Martin Smith

Sir, Your reporter, Peter Hennessy (March 13), has revealed the contents of a confidential document prepared for the Association of First Division Civil Servants (FDCS) on open government, drafted by a team of three under the chairmanship of Mr Stephen Linstead. This report finds that the "Civil Service could probably live with a freedom of information Act without too much difficulty."

Commenting on the FDCS's decision not to make this document more widely available, Mr John Ward, the association's general secretary, is reported as saying that "it was not a subject of overriding interest to members at the moment as they are primarily concerned with pay increases."

This decision is most regrettable. Whatever the "overriding interest" of FDCS members, who are public servants, might be, there can be

no doubt that the substance of this report deserves the closest attention of MPs and others. Surely this consideration takes precedence over the internal preoccupations of the FDCS? Further debate on the merits of a statutory public right of access to official information, the principle of which is now supported by a wide range of organizations from the Law Society to the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, must be permitted to draw upon evidence supplied by civil servants themselves. The potential role of the FDCS in this process is considerable. It is therefore greatly to be desired that the FDCS will rethink its position, and somewhat ironic one in the circumstances, and publish this important report at the earliest opportunity.

Yours faithfully,
MELVYN BRAGG,
12 Hampstead Hill Gardens, NW3.

From Mr M. Weaver

Sir, As one of the ten million listeners to the ephemeral and "trashy" Radio One, I feel that I should clear up a few of the misconceptions aired recently on this page by Raymond Fischer (March 5).

One of his suggestions was that Radio 1 and 2 should be amalgamated. This, fortunately, is rendered impossible by the fact that the tones of music played by the two stations are as different as a Mozart quintet and The Archers: a difference which I am sure Mr Fischer will appreciate.

Radio 1 plays a vital role in the culture of this country by enabling new, young British bands to play sessions or live tracks to a large, non-regionalized audience, which, by its very nature, is not to be found in the local radio stations. Rock and pop music is one of the few fields in which this country still influences the rest of the world. For example, at this very moment, a record by a British group is at the top of the American charts, while last year Elton John had a sell-out tour in the USA. For this to continue, it is essential that there is national coverage of new trends in music.

Another point I would like to make is that there is precious little done nowadays to provide cultural facilities, specifically for the great majority of young people who are not "into" Mozart, Dvořák or bingo. Here in Scotland there is only one venue at which major bands regularly play concerts, and as every performance which I have attended over the past four years, all 3,000 seats were sold and crowds were standing outside, often for hours, in an attempt to buy tickets for standing room. And yet, while cultural facilities for adults receive huge subsidies from the taxpayer (£3,000 a week in the case of the Glasgow King's Theatre), the Glasgow Apollo is under threat of closure because the owners are not making a profit.

I do not expect Mr Raymond Fischer to appreciate our music, but please leave us the few opportunities we have to listen to it.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN WEAVER,
16 Raveston Road,
Bearsden,
Glasgow.

Sessions in the smoke-filled rooms

From Sir Reginald Bennett

Sir, I still have by me David Wood's great article on the "smoke-filled rooms" of Blackpool in the October 1963. His article of today (March 10) contains much of the story of the manservings in the Macmillan succession, tortuous as they were.

My own part, to which he refers, was to act as Macleod's eyes and ears and, in the smoke-filled room, buster of those "long thin scotchies". Perhaps I might amplify from my own activities, or rather passivities.

Best news broke, as intended, on the evening of our arrival at Blackpool. There was a bizarre hunt through the town for my boss, who was due to address the Conservative agents. From that moment the tension mounted.

On the Wednesday Muriel Bowen told me her interview for the candidature at Morecombe and Lonsdale had suddenly been put off. Taking this with Randolph Churchill's precipitate return from the United States to lead the "Quintin" campaign, it seemed clear that Lord Hailsham was going to renounce his title and throw his hat in the ring.

So he did. But it soon became clear that Rab Butler's supporters and Quintin's were each able to stop the other, yet insufficient to prevent themselves. So there was a deadlock.

At about this time I began to hear talk of Alec Home, sporadically at first but then with increasing insistence, I remembered this to have been a "There's a dark horse, and he's coming up the rail fast."

"Who?"

"Don't talk nonsense."

"I'm not inventing this. I'm hearing it everywhere. I assure you."

"Absolute rot: it's not a possibility."

"But it's being said."

"Quite impossible. I have heard him affirm categorically that he was not a candidate."

"Maybe he isn't, or wasn't; but that doesn't say that he hasn't been drafted."

And so it happened. Iain had certainly been told, by me at least, but he was quite unprepared to believe it.

More and more the reports came in, and soon he and Reggie Maudling, partners in a non-aggression pact, simply had to take them seriously. Then followed the "smoke-filled room" session. The rest is history—or will be if enough of the dwindling band of survivors reveal their knowledge in time.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Faithfully yours,

REGINALD BENNETT,
37 Cotnamore Court, W8.
March 13.

The welfare of the world

From Mr Kyril Tadmarsch

Sir, Mr Edward Heath's argument that we have been idle for Afghanistan and Turkey (March 12) is sound and now familiar.

By reacting rather than acting and by giving too little, the industrialized countries too often failed to help remedy the poverty and underdevelopment which are the root cause of instability in so many developing countries. However, there is another point.

It is not only a question of inadequate growth and insufficient aid in dollar or sterling terms. The £1m of British aid to Afghanistan may indeed have been little for a country with a per capita income of £40 a year. But apart from more economic aid there is also the need to encourage developing countries to tackle those glaring inequalities between rich and poor which are probably the cause of the economic inadequacy of economic development.

This kind of advice from the North is often painful. But crudely, it means telling the "haves" of the South, before it is too late, to distribute more to the "have-nots" and to permit them to participate more in providing for their own needs. It does not help to make friends among those who wield the reins of power and wealth. Nonetheless such good counsel and encouragement are badly needed. The question is more complex than that. Given the right priorities, poor countries can make progress in meeting non-material needs such as health education and participation right now. There is no reason to wait for significant economic growth before acting. It was a relevant point, echoing an International Labour Organization study, but made somewhat late in the day.

Yours faithfully,
KYRIL TADMARSCH,
Villa Maigre Tour,
1295 Miles,
Switzerland.
March 14.

Everest high-fliers

From Lord Hunt

Sir, In your newspaper today (March 11) my friend Dr Charles Warren asks what is the greatest altitude at which a bird has been seen. Since the context of his question was the current correspondence about victims of Everest, it may be of personal interest to your readers if I recall that, while members of the 1953 expedition were on the South Col in 1953 at about 8,000 metres, we were visited by a single chough, doubtless in search of food. I remember that this bird strutted around our tents with his beak wide open, presumably because, like ourselves, he (or she—for the sexes are identical) was suffering from anoxia.

Sir Edmund Hillary reported having seen a flock of small birds crossing the summit ridge of Everest, at well over 8,500 metres.

Yours truly,
JOHN HUNT,
Royal Geographical Society,
Kensington Gore, SW7.
March 11.

CARTER'S ATTACK ON INFLATION

Mr Carter's package of economic measures are aimed at price stability within the United States rather than in the foreign exchange market. Yet it is in foreign exchange markets they have received their first welcome. The dollar has continued the advance foreign exchange markets it has been making in recent weeks. Yet in New York the judgment seems to have been of some caution.

Views are right. The latest measures are likely to have their most immediate impact on the international scene, they should make a contribution to the down of world inflation, impact on the American economy is likely to be limited to appear. It is under the States that those in the States who have been devalued by the apparent unwillingness of the Carter Administration to defeat inflation, and of its priorities should be that a corner has been made.

Should not blind us to the fact that President Carter's least seem to be to restore both abroad and at home the worth of the dollar, and immediate impact of measures will be to

R BACKING FOR THE ARTS

The climate of the times, John Stevas has done well Arts Council. The level assigned to it in the year approximately off the general increase in income. In practice, the grant effect of a small cut in the council begins the year with larger outlay commitments than usual a mid-season cut in this grant made by the present government on taking office, cause there is little scope for saving in man, the head under which rise fastest. Like many a nation, the council was put about last year that it need more than 20 per cent level in real terms next year. The outcome must cause relief than disappointment.

Outing the grant, Mr Stevas urged commercial arts to do more to patronize a Sponsorship has been an singly valuable source of income in recent years. But inure it is an unpredictable regular aid, and tends to ly to the more dignified of activity. In aggregate, never likely to amount to than a small proportion of

public support, itself now in Britain compared to most industrial countries. Some sections of the Conservative Party have doubts about the very idea of state support for an aesthetic quango, but the council's minimalist costs are low (at the per cent of the total), and its unduly elaborate structure of advisory committees has recently undergone drastic pruning.

The award will allow the council to continue its operations in much the same way as at present, though some enterprises which have been just struggling along with its support will no doubt fail to survive another year. Some observers may be disappointed that the award does not force the council to make the kind of harsh reappraisal of obligations that major cuts would require. Ever since its inception it has been criticized for lacking a policy, in the sense of a distinct idea of what kind of art it exists to promote. These criticisms are often linked, to calls for greater democracy in its affairs, by which is usually meant either more influence for vested interests, such as poets and actors, or for more or less political interests, such as the trade unions.

These conflicting pressures make uncertainty and poor morale the normal condition of the council's staff. Should they try to be less elitist, and further reduce their spending (now about a third of the total) on the big national musical and theatrical institutions? Or should they foster the metropolitan best and let the regions look after themselves? Should they respect popular taste and restrict the already small share of their support that goes to experimental work? Financial stringency almost inevitably imposes a move away from experiment: already the council has decided to replace a series of concerts of modern music at the Royal Festival Hall this year with a more familiar programme. But in fact the diversity of the Arts Council's patronage is a sign of good health. In our own time more than any other, there is no common agreement about the right form, for the arts or the right manner in which they should make contact with everyday life. A council that is not dominated by any particular interest and backs the horses it fancies as far as a tight budget permits, probably serves as well as any.

action of souls

Mr Nicholas Walker
The Religious Affairs Committee contrasted proselytizing cults unfavourably with established churches and denominations, considers various ways of the former under the of the latter (March 10).

most outsiders, the only ant difference between the ends of religious organizations some are new and small and others are old and large; any outsiders, the latter do more harm than the through their great in education, broadcasting, and morality and law. for everyone, any proposal for the activity of minority religious organizations should be an attempt to restore the old alliance between church and state which prevented freedom of religion (and irreligion) in this country for most of the century and which was weakened by centuries of bitter struggle, really want to go back to a

system in which any kind of organization is restricted by anything more than the basic rules of a plural society?

Surely a more sensible idea would be to put all religious organizations on the same legal basis as each other and as all other organizations. Then truth and falsehood could last grapple in a free and open encounter.

NICHOLAS WALKER
Nationalist Press Association,
88 Islington High Street, N1.

Derelict land

From Dr Andrew H. Dawson

Sir, Professor Chisholm has drawn attention again (March 5) to the empty land in our cities. He proposes that owners of such land should be taxed, and thus encouraged to redevelop it.

Would this be effective? Much of the land belongs to local authorities, and in some cities most of it falls in this category. It is likely that any tax on such authorities would be passed immediately to the

ratepayers. At a time when some of the largest manufacturing firms in Edinburgh are warning that substantial increases in the rates may curtail their plans for expansion it may be optimistic to suppose that Professor Chisholm's suggestion would encourage the economic regeneration of inner city areas. On the other hand, it may not be possible for authorities such as Glasgow to accelerate their housing redevelopment plans in order to avoid the tax without exposing some of the city's peripheral housing estate to greater problems of under-occupation and dereliction than they face at present.

Rather than encourage any further growth of tax collecting should local authorities not cut the costs of redevelopment by giving away their land to those who are prepared to accept the challenge of moving back into our urban wastelands?

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW H. DAWSON,
Department of Geography,
The University,
St Andrews,
March 6.

Law Report March 17 1980

Guidelines on recommending deportation

Region v Nazari and Others

Guidelines were laid down by the Court of Appeal for courts when making recommendations for deportation under section 6 of the Immigration Act, 1971. The court was giving judgment on appeals against sentence by four immigrants who had been convicted of or had pleaded guilty to offences committed in the United Kingdom, and whose sentences included a recommendation for deportation.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON, who was sitting with Mr Justice Byrne and Mr Justice Conyngham, said that the main submission on behalf of Fazlollah Nazari, an Iranian student sentenced for being concerned in the fraudulent evasion of the prohibition on importing opium, was that if he were sent back to Iran he might have to face a court which would have jurisdiction to pass a death sentence upon him.

Rohan Dissanayake had pleaded guilty to manslaughter by reason of diminished responsibility for an indictment charging murder. He had been sentenced to five years. Joseph Fernandez, sentenced to 18 months imprisonment for conspiracy to rob and aggravated burglary, was Spanish, but he and his wife had lived in this country for many years. Although his record was not good, he was not a member of the criminal classes. He was a hard working man. His son, who had been born here, was a good English boy, and they went to English schools. The court was satisfied

that if he were deported his wife would face a grave dilemma: whether to follow him to Spain, or remain in England where the children's future looked brighter.

The general principle was laid down by Lord Justice Sachs in *R v Caird* (1970) 54 Cr App Rep 499, 510: "... there was also a recommendation for deportation... the question for the court is whether the potential detriment to this country of (the appellant) remaining here has been shown to be such as to justify the recommendation. (The court) desires to emphasise that the courts when considering a recommendation for deportation are normally concerned simply with the crime concerned and the individual's past record and the question as to what is their effect on the question of potential detriment just mentioned."

In their Lordships' judgment Parliament intended by section 6(1) and (2) that a proper and full inquiry should take place before a recommendation was made which was likely to result in a deportation order. It would be advisable for judges specifically to invite submissions on the question of deportation where there was the possibility that a recommendation would be made. It was not enough merely to add a sentence to a judgment.

The guidelines the court must give were not rigid rules of law: there might be exceptions depending on the evidence.

Firstly, the court must consider the potential detriment to this country of the individual's remaining here.

As to Nazari, it might be that there might be exceptions depending on the evidence. Secondly, the courts were not concerned with the political systems in operation in other countries. The court had no knowledge of such matters, and it would be wholly undesirable if any court expressed its views of regimes prevailing in other countries. It was for the Home Secretary to decide whether returning an offender to his country of origin would have unduly harsh consequences.

As to Nazari, it might be that there might be exceptions depending on the evidence. Thirdly, the court must consider the potential detriment to this country of the individual's remaining here.

Firstly, the court must consider the potential detriment to this country of the individual's remaining here.

Firstly, the court must consider the potential detriment to this country of the individual's remaining here.

Court of Appeal

way of knowing. When the time came for him to be released, the court was sure that the Home Secretary would be in mind of the very matters the court was concerned should be considered, namely, whether it would be unduly harsh to send him back to Iran.

In the case of a short sentence, however, a court might have to make up its mind whether to make a recommendation, and if it were satisfied, on the evidence, that it would be unduly harsh to return an offender to his country of origin, then the court might feel impelled, in fairness to the accused, not to recommend deportation. That would depend on the evidence and the circumstances.

Finally, it was proper for the court to consider the effect of a recommendation for deportation upon others not before the court. The courts had no wish to break up families or to impose hardships upon those innocent of crimes. The case of Fernandez illustrated that clearly. His wife was a credit to herself and a good citizen of this country. If her husband were deported, she would have a hard reading choice to make. In the light of those considerations, the court would quash the recommendation, then the court might feel impelled, in fairness to the accused, not to recommend deportation. That would depend on the evidence and the circumstances.

Law Society indemnity scheme not invalid

Swain and Another v Law Society

Before Mr Justice Slade. Section 37 of the Solicitors Act, 1974, empowers the Council of the Law Society to make rules requiring the society to take out and maintain insurance with authorized insurers on behalf of solicitors, and the Solicitors Indemnity Rules, 1975-1979, under which the Solicitors' Indemnity Insurance scheme was introduced, were not invalid.

The society was not bound to account to either of the plaintiffs, Mr James Midwood Swain and Mr Alan Stephen McLaren, two practising solicitors, for any part of any commission received by it or by its subsidiary, Law Society Services Ltd, in respect of premiums paid by individual solicitors pursuant to the scheme.

Since the action was not representative, the judge declined to make a declaration that the Solicitors Indemnity Rules were valid or a wider declaration in respect of the commission received from premiums paid.

Mr Leonard Lewis, QC, and Mr Martin Roth for the plaintiffs; Mr Robert Alexander, QC, and Mr Patrick Phillips for the Law Society.

His Lordship said that until 1975 there was no general insurance scheme for solicitors who wished to obtain indemnity insurance against claims in respect of civil liability for professional negligence or breach of duty, and solicitors wanting insurance negotiated their own terms with insurers.

The Solicitors Act, 1974, made provision for a compulsory professional indemnity insurance scheme. The Council of the Law Society was empowered, with the concurrence of the Master of the Rolls, to make rules concerning indemnity and to empower the society to withhold a practising certificate from any person who did not satisfy it that he was complying with the rules.

There could be no doubt that the legislature contemplated that compliance with any relevant indemnity rules which the council might see fit to make in the proper exercise of its statutory powers should be an inescapable condition precedent to practise as a solicitor; but his Lordship accepted that the drastic nature of the sanction for non-compliance afforded grounds for concluding that the wording of the power conferred by section 37 should be construed more narrowly than broadly.

It was common ground that the council's rule-making powers were to be found in section 37 (1) (2) and (3).

On December 1, 1975, the council made the Solicitors Indemnity Rules, 1975. Rule 2 provided that

the society should take out and maintain with authorized insurers a master policy and to issue to solicitors certificates of insurance; Solicitors to whom the rules applied should pay premiums payable by them under the master policy and certificates of insurance as soon as they fell due. Since September 1, 1976, the society had regarded the scheme as having become compulsory and had required every solicitor to whom the rules applied to produce a certificate of insurance on applying for a practising certificate.

There had been suggestions on both sides that the society, in entering into an agreement for a master policy, would be doing so as an agent. In his Lordship's judgment it was reasonably clear that the intention of the makers of the rules was that the society should enter into the agreement as trustees, for persons ascertained and unascertained, to require the insurers to provide them with insurance.

It had been argued against the Law Society that the proposed master policy as envisaged by the rules did not involve the "taking out" of any insurance, within the meaning of section 37(2) (b), but that his Lordship rejected. The challenge to the validity of the rules must fail.

As regards the retention by the Law Society Services Ltd of com-

mission there had been a clear majority vote in favour of the insurance scheme, and the society had understood that the proposal that it should take commission had been endorsed.

The plaintiffs had not been able to satisfy his Lordship that the society had been acting in breach of the rules, and he therefore had to consider the plaintiffs' submissions on the footing that the rules were valid but that an agent or trustee must account for profit obtained. If the society entered into the contract as trustees, then as soon as the contract had been concluded there existed a fiduciary relationship between the society and the solicitors. However, proof of a post-contract fiduciary relationship would not itself suffice to entitle the plaintiffs to invoke the equitable principle exemplified in *Phillips v Boardman* (1961) 2 AC 461. That had not been shown.

The society had been able to conclude an advantageous arrangement relating to commission because of the negotiation of the original contract with the insurers. Furthermore, his Lordship saw no reason for presuming that the society would be negotiating insurance in a fiduciary capacity.

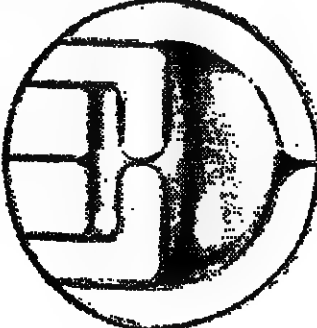
Solicitors: Lovell, Son & Piffard for Pethybridge, Rodmin; Slaughter & May.

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Fashion

by
Prudence Glynn



I am very much into the idea of reversible coats, which is ratched, or, as it were, a supply of something, but is going to stop over-reliance on the seal-tuff one-presumably as one presumes that time, somebody is going to point out to the seahorns with their gas can that gas is just what is used on poor Reynard, hair, unless he happens shot (probably miss) creeping away to die (green) because his worth £40 now in the black market.

Anyway, there is a lobby against real fur, and a fine new stream sign. The most interesting to me in the winning designs just presented by the French, despite the makers, was that most students involved in a case which attracted a fine opted to use the look-alike, mink being humanely killed and in a life of luxury, wise he mentions, quite fitting a nasty little which would take you off as soon as look at you. I was disappointed. Final choices: I thought Zarin jacket with red, blue, purple, flashes by I. I. Pillman of Harrow School of Art. Also a reversible black and white coat by Charlotte Hef Liverpool. Polytechnic, I way, the mini really portland.

■ Above centre: Reversible coat in Caledonia and grey leather, leg warmers and hood, by Helen Carter, Newcastle Polytechnic. ■ Top left: Caledonia jacket with pink going by Fleur Dunkerley, Leicester Polytechnic. ■ Above left: Reversible Tarare and brown gabardine coat by Pru Bowyer, Harrow School of Art. ■ Top right: Child's Zarin jacket, by Carol Hord Derby Lonsdale College.

Synthetics are cheap, synthetics are nasty. Rayon is that stuff the chain stores make their copies of. Janet Reger undies from acrylics are those sort of woolly materials. If they are in a jumper, three washes later it will not be the shape it started out but all baggy and saggy, and if it is used in that invaluable "little" day dress, three washes later that will be running up your legs and grabbing your nether regions in a lock more suited to Rugby football than high fashion.

Polyester, which tries to look like either silk or cotton, is more or less all right, except that if you have it in your bed-linen while it may not need ironing, oh my, how you do have to soak it then boil to get out the maccara shed along with the scalding tears onto the pillow. (All beauty editors tell you that your face will fall off if you do not cleanse and maybe even tone religiously before you go to bed. Why? The greatest beauty treatment sleep and you clean your face and moisturize it in the daytime, just as you can, if you put your mind to it. Hoover the carpet after lunch.) Synthetic jersey? Ugh. Slimy. Fake fur? Ugh. Leo.

That leaves us with Lycra, which is the crucial element in all the new terribly tight clothes but no one has ever heard of it so it lacks any stigma. It is that stretchy elastic sort of fibre.

Exaggeration, of course. Largely untrue, of course. You only have to walk through the fabric departments of John Lewis in Oxford Street, which though not the most specialized shows the broadest range of really high style practical price materials to know that it is not true.

Those stands are covered with simply lovely, imaginatively displayed (very important, this) fabrics which are in very many cases synthetics—it says so on the label, and you can always trust the Partnership implicitly. Which brings us to the crux of this piece, which is to examine the parlous state of the British textile industry which appears to be going under faster than the Titanic and for many of the same reasons. Nothing can founder this magnificent piece of machinery save failing to observe that that dear little point of ice in the blue water is not just a happy snap for the passengers, but the tip of things to come.

We have beaten the nations of the earth in fabrics of linen, woolen and cotton," wrote a Mr. A. V. Kirwan in 1864. He was actually deploring the lack of a British answer to Bechamel sauce, since cuisine was his, if you will forgive the pun, forte. But it is interesting that in surviving the national scene he should have so automatically picked out our textile trade as an exemplar.

Incidentally, the linen trade

was demolished by the Pope. The moment he decreed that vestments might now be made from mixed fibres—synthetics, indeed—the sanctity of the chaste, white and beautiful material, thick as a table cloth or fine as a stocking, disintegrated (that word comes from the swordsmith) declined. In high fashion nobody wants to look quite so crushed.

Where has it all gone wrong? We inherited a magnificent textile industry through our political generosity in granting asylum to those with the intrinsic skills of lace, or of weaving, or of sewing. We married this to the brilliance of the technology of the nineteenth century industrial revolution, and even farther back than this, as Samuel Smiles pointed out in *Self Help*.

Now, all the machinery we see in the great mills abroad seems to be foreign. Indeed, nearly burst into tears when in Turkey, in an enormous plant, discovered that we are still apparently the only people who can produce (De Vos, Manchester) sensationally high speed jacquard looms. But this was several years back. No doubt we have lost that market too.

Almost all that remains

those founding fathers of the British industry—are their marble busts, gathering dust in the hall. Meanwhile, thousands of jobs are being lost, looms closed, exports sliced, no one seems to be buying clothes and why should they when they are so dull, and I have a sinking feeling that when I cover the British fashion collections next week, nine tenths of the materials being used are going to be foreign. They are going to be foreign because they are more lovely, more seductive, more indicative to the customer, occur delivered and cheaper. Above all, better designed.

Many of them will be synthetic, but you will be hard put to tell. But they will be foreign. In fact I imagine that most of those materials which get my Lewis are foreign, but since the Partnership has proved disinclined to tell me anything except what I owe them on my account, I cannot say.

What I can say is that the situation has to be taken in hand or we are simply not going to have a textile industry, and since we have the most expensive and extensive state funded design education system in the world, churning out hundreds of hopefuls every year, it behooves us to make sure that we do actually have somewhere for them to go.

Beginning at the end of that paragraph, it must be said a great deal of the design education offered is incompetent. It is no doubt well-intentioned, but it is just hopelessly impractical. Pretty pictures are one thing, repeats are another. Costs are something else again. I forget how often I have asked a student to tell me the market they are aiming at, and the price point, and been received with a blank stare or even, perish the thought, a tinge of shock at such a wicked capitalist attitude.

Now, not knowing how many beans make five is quite all right if you can get backing from an imaginative, wealthy company with the resources to treasure your artistic gifts and the sympathetic management to encourage, pet, edit and then market you. The trouble is that such backing, and above all such management, are about as rare as hen's teeth. On the one hand, the most talented of our young designers either work abroad, or consign themselves to the potting shed dyeing exquisite single lengths of wondrous stuffs because they cannot bear the frustrations and the lack of recognition afforded by the huge producers. On the other hand, the huge producers are themselves the victims of the market place. That market place has, in Britain, consistently cared more for price than style, thus the chain stores dominate the production line, requiring volume, safety in design, and low price.

Once our mills were clued into this concept, it was—

very hard to reverse it. Everyone knows the times are troubled in this thing we dump in this is the design element. I wrote last week, we have an intrinsic lack of vision in design, and I am sure that the future of our built filaments—both sheer and beauty, oh, very sure.

The man in the hot seat is without doubt Chris Hogg, newly elevated as man of Courtaulds. Alas the production of this group is made in sympathy (which they themselves a huge percentage of the put goes into the volume chain store areas. Mr Hogg of a garbled 43 years 2 confronted with the close the Belfast plant, a penetration of the British at by American synthetics fashion swing which says to easy-care, it's very chic hand laundry on silk, and cotton and wool because washing machine is no less status symbol miracle of sludies and self-sufficiency. Laura Ashley sweeping it are what count.

Again, an exaggeration. I am a milliner of women never intend to iron any ever again, and after all, taulds is the volume end of market. But you can never regard the young view, the generation of customers, why Courtaulds have instilled a design prize—to my del not for students but for war houses—to re-vamp the line Courtelle. They have called Comp Technological. Chis ought to give a good right the old biddies' court wandering around in the st I sometimes wonder which the more dread name, Court or Crimpelean?

Mr Hogg, not surpris would favour some sort of restriction on cheap imports because he says, "without sound home market you can export." "Not too much a lifeline, but enough to give own industry a new chance. Without that you cannot re the commitment to excellence which we must. In the panic volume I think we are going to destroy a lot of irreplaceable technique, and regret it later. He sees a "sensible, rejuvenated British industry, with an eye on small units, because this how the British work identify best."

Amen. Out of the potting and into the future?

Courtauld's efforts to revamp the ageing image of Courtauld look the form of a competition, unusually geared towards producing manufacturers rather than students. Not precisely devastating by its novelty, but showing a good use of colour and shape was this winner, a neat little T dress in polo stripes with a coordinated blouson jacket by Alistair Cowin.

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Forthcoming marriages

Mr. C. J. A. Beattie and Miss H. A. Russell

The engagement is announced between Christopher, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. David Beattie, of Windsor, Berkshire, and Heather, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Russell, of Barton Mills, Suffolk.

Mr. S. J. Cox and Miss J. L. Heath

The engagement is announced between Stephen John, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. W. Cox, of Mountbatten, The Drive, Belmont, Surrey, and Jane Lindsey, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Heath, of Cooks Place, Albury, Surrey.

Mr. W. Macdonald and Miss T. Cooper

The engagement is announced between Warren Macdonald, of Melbourne, Australia, and Tina Cooper, of Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire.

Mr. M. A. Mather-Lee and Miss A. S. Gibbs

The engagement is announced between Michael, only son of Mrs. M. A. Mather-Lee, of Southcot, Camden Road, Brecon, Powys, and Angela, only daughter of Mrs. J. A. Gibbs, of Columbia College, Storrage, Malvern, Worcestershire.

Mr. J. P. Nettle and Miss C. G. Mawhood

The engagement is announced between Julian, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Nettle, of Ewell, and Caroline, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Mawhood, of Benconfield, London.

Mr. N. J. Ray and Miss J. R. Cartwright

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of the late Mr. Arthur Ray and of Mrs. Kate Ray, of Maitland, North Yorkshire, and Jeanette, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Cartwright, of Bath, and the late Mr. Watson.

Mr. I. E. R. Savory and Miss J. B. Stephens

The engagement is announced between Ian, son of Mrs. Maria Cecelia Savory, of South Lodge, and Louise, eldest daughter of Mr. J. W. Stephens and Mrs. Stephens, of South Lodge, of London.

Mr. P. Singh and Miss J. M. Watson

The engagement is announced between Pratap, younger son of Raja Rishi Singh, of Kapurthala, India, and of Mrs. P. O. Chettyar, and Miss J. M. Watson, of John Watson, of Elmwood Old Vicarage, Saffron Walden, Essex, and the late Mr. Watson.

Marriages

Flugh Leutenant R. N. Goodman and Miss S. R. Robinson

The marriage took place at the parish church of St. John the Baptist, Dordrecht, on Saturday, March 8, 1980, of Flight Lieutenant Robert Goodman, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Goodman, of Loughborough, Leicestershire, and Miss S. R. Robinson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Robinson, of Dordrecht, South Yorkshire. The Rev. L. Derry officiated.

Mr. C. E. Frater and Miss J. F. Shelley

The marriage took place on March 17, 1980, at the parish church of St. George, between Mr. Charles E. Frater, son of Mrs. E. Frater and the late Mr. E. Frater, and Miss Julia Frances Shelley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dean, Gloucestershire.

Mr. R. Thomas and Mrs. D. Wile

The marriage took place in High Wycombe on Monday, March 17, 1980, between Mr. Richard Thomas and Mrs. D. Wile, widow of Mr. Dennis Wile.

Architecture report

Individuality of theatre on by-pass site

By Charles McKean
The new Theatre in Ipswich, as Michael Knight says, is worth a detour: not much of one is needed since you can see it from the road. The building is a Black Forest Gasworks or Brierley with all the robustness of a Black Forest Gasworks or Brierley. The building is a Black Forest Gasworks or Brierley with all the robustness of a Black Forest Gasworks or Brierley. The building is a Black Forest Gasworks or Brierley with all the robustness of a Black Forest Gasworks or Brierley.

Most people involved with provincial theatre will be aware that the architects of a scheme of this kind are being asked to do the impossible: to create a building which is a permanent home for the theatre, yet is also a building which is a permanent home for the theatre, yet is also a building which is a permanent home for the theatre.

The Wolsey Theatre is a fine, soft-red brick building with deeply overhanging eaves and a malpais-style plant room on top. The building is a Black Forest Gasworks or Brierley with all the robustness of a Black Forest Gasworks or Brierley. The building is a Black Forest Gasworks or Brierley with all the robustness of a Black Forest Gasworks or Brierley.



Paintings quizzed: Kate McConnell, aged 11, from St James' School, Kensington, framing an altarpiece by Filippino Lippi at the National Gallery yesterday in search of the answers for the Jungle Look quiz, a test of wits, observation and drawing skills, instituted by the gallery. The quiz, which is filled in as children circulate around many of the paintings, is for those aged 8 to 14 and closes on April 20.

Commonwealth airmen to be remembered

Commonwealth airmen who have served in the Royal Air Force are to be remembered at the annual commemorative service at the Runnymede memorial, on the Thames, on May 15, at 11. The service is part of the Commonwealth Air Force Memorial, which is a tribute to the airmen who served in the Royal Air Force during the Second World War.

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Constable sketch price jumps £760 in year

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent
The extent to which auction prices of a Constable sketch have risen in the last 12 months is a head and shoulders portrait of a pretty woman, a pencil sketch measuring 19 cm by 14.5 cm, and sold for £1,250 yesterday.

In a sale at Phillips auction rooms in Knowle last July it fetched £490. Watercolours and drawings of the last 12 months have been sold for a wide range of prices, with a marked lack of buyers. Demand at yesterday's sale was noticeably stronger, especially for decorative items. An interesting architectural drawing, 'The elevation of Salters House, Tottenham', by Humphrey Repton and dated from 1807, sold for £150, having been left unsold at half that price in a Phillips sale last November.

The top price in yesterday's sale was £1,250 (estimate £1,000 to £1,500) for a pencil sketch of a woman's head and shoulders, which was sold for £1,250 yesterday. The sketch was sold for £1,250 yesterday. The sketch was sold for £1,250 yesterday.

A sale of Art Nouveau and Art Deco at Exton, in France, on Saturday, included a low table in bronze supported by four long-legged birds, a signed piece by open to the public, and Ughrook in Devon, the first castle-style house built by Robert Adam, are among the 39 new entries.

A useful new section lists a selection of redundant churches rescued and converted by the Redundant Churches Fund. A.B.C. Travel Guides Ltd., Old Hill, London Road, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, LU4 0JF (post free).

Back of Beyond: Life in the House of the Future. By Alice M. Markham. The title of this book is taken from an old Yorkshire phrase to describe a place as isolated from the world as where the father was a farmer, and the author spent her childhood and youth during the first quarter of the present century.

Here is a straightforward but vivid account of the association of the father, the three-mile walk to school where a sadistic head ruled supreme, the drudgery of being to prepare meals for the farm workers as well as the large family, the simple pleasures of life, and the leisure of the father, and the joy of a trip to the nearest village or city to visit shops and relatives.

It was a harsh but, from this account, surprisingly happy existence. The author's son, John Markham, a noted local historian, has set his mother's nostalgic reminiscences in their wider perspective. Lockington Publishing Co., The Studio, Railway Station, North Ferriby, North Humberside LU8 2LP (postage 21p).

Cyril Bainbridge
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OBITUARY

SIR CYRIL HARRISON

Influence in textile industry

Sir Cyril Harrison, who was chairman of the Textile Society, died on December 14, 1981, at the age of 78. He was an influential figure in the British textile industry at a difficult time, and was also a past president of the Federation of British Industries.

Cyril Harrison was born on December 14, 1903, the son of A. J. Harrison, MGCSE, a gas engineer, and educated at Burnley Grammar School. He left school at 16 to learn weaving in a local mill. Later he moved to Manchester where he entered the cloth business and at the age of 27 set up on his own as a merchant. The reputation he gained in this sphere earned him an invitation to join English Sewing Cotton as manager of the yarn sale department. He became managing director in 1948, Vice-Chairman in 1952 and was appointed chairman in 1963.

This was a particularly difficult period for the textile industry and his appointment as President of the Federation of British Industries in 1951 was something of a compliment to the way in which he had maintained the commercial health of ESC at that time. As president of the FBI he was tireless in his criticism of the amateurish, uncoordinated nature of organizations of British employers' bodies and particularly castigated what he saw as a lack of awareness in industry of the necessity to think jointly of commercial functions and labour.

A well known figure throughout the Northwest, Harrison was a past president of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, and of the Cotton, Silk and Woollen Manufacturers' Association. He was a member of the Court of Governors of Manchester University and was a member of the Grand Council of the CBI.

He was made an Hon MA of Victoria University, Manchester, in 1961 and was knighted in 1963. He married, in 1937, Ethel, daughter of Edward Wood, PCA, JP. She died in 1971. They had two sons.

PERCY BELCHER
Tony Van den Bergh writes:

On March 6, in his eightieth year, Percy Belcher, the former secretary of the Tobacco Workers' Union, was buried at Reading, the town where he had lived for most of his life. He had been a Labour councillor for over fourteen years, taking an especial interest in housing.

Mr Belcher's death, only a year after that of Betty Harrison, his assistant general secretary, was a blow to the union and to employers in the cigarette industry, for they were a formidable partnership. Betty Harrison was the intellectual. She provided the theories and methods on which the union's policy would be based, leaving Percy Belcher to breathe emotion and force into their presentation. While Betty was undeviating once they had decided what road to follow, Percy would sometimes vacillate, but he was a man of action, and his instinctive reaction to the employers' reply.

Percy Belcher was a remarkable character of widely differing interests. Thus he was able to combine his membership of the Communist Party with becoming a Methodist lay preacher. Although he was a pacifist—indeed, he was awarded the Joliot Curie Peace prize in 1964 for his work for peace—he was a man of action, and he was a man of action, and he was a man of action.

He was an extremely warm person and would offer genuine, and lasting friendship to those he liked and respected, even whilst castigating vigorously with their own words. Indeed, on my leaving the tobacco industry, in spite of my having negotiated against him for over twelve years, he immediately invited me to join him in his new venture, but only to join him in his new venture, but only to join him in his new venture.

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ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 10. Dealings End, March 21. \$ Conango Day, March 24. Settlement Day, March 31.
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]



Japanese deficit cut by surge in exports

Japan's current account deficit fell to \$1,240m in February from a record \$3,374m (about £1,540m) in January. The February deficit compared with a \$290m surplus in the same month last year.

Finance Ministry officials attributed the fall in the deficit to an upsurge in exports, especially those of cars and steel products. The exports increase was attributed to the yen's downturn on the foreign exchange market.

Overall payments in February were in deficit by \$840m (£381.3m) against \$2,222m (£1m) in January and \$761m (£345.9m) in the corresponding month in 1979.

Car output record

Production at Toyo Kogyo, the Japanese car manufacturer, reached a new monthly record in February, with an output of 91,527 units, 16 per cent up from January and 19.1 per cent up on the same month last year.

Controls condemned

Mr Alfred Kahn, President Carter's adviser on inflation, has repeated the Administration's opposition to mandatory wage and price controls and said they "would be a serious mistake".

Iran gas price

Iran is seeking a price of \$3.63 dollars a 1,000 cu ft for its gas supplies to the Soviet Union, almost five times more than the 76 cents charged under the Shah. The Russians are offering between 30 and 40 per cent less than the asking price.

'Barter' trade trend

Barter-type transactions, sometimes called compensation agreements, are likely to become more important in East-West trade during the 1980s despite opposition from some unions and industry organizations in the West, according to experts at the Leipzig trade fair.

Turkey aid

Mr Noboru Takeshita the Japanese finance minister is reluctant to comply with a West German request to increase aid to Turkey this year. He believes aid should be increased to Pakistan and Thailand, both hit by an inflow of refugees.

British shipowners reconsider opposition to takeover by Tung group Furness Withy and the Chinese connexion

The offer for Furness Withy by Mr C. Y. Tung a month ago set the alarm bells jangling in British shipping as nothing has for decades. After all Bovis, which bid for P & O in the mid-seventies, was at least, British, Mr Tung is Chinese.

Furness Withy, apart from its interests in bulk carriers and North Sea oil, is one of the four partners or "grannies" in Overseas Containers, the consortium which has progressively taken over the lion's share of Britain's liner shipping in the Africa, Australasia and Far East trades. Does it do to let a foreigner into that sort of holy of holies: the heartland of British shipping?

During a month of heart searching many who at first instinctively opposed the bid are now coming round to thinking it may be no bad thing.

Mr Tung, with 120 ships of 10 million tonnes compared with Furness Withy's 50 of one million tonnes, is well known to British owners, who respect him and his son, C. H. Tung, as shrewd and competent operators; buccaneers who can nevertheless be relied on.

As one leading United Kingdom owner closely involved said to him recently: "If it had to be anyone, CY, we'd prefer it to be you." But this particular scion of British shipping did not think it should be anyone; and CY heard his view with oriental politeness.

The Furness Withy board has clearly

overcome its doubts in recommending the raised bid. But directors primarily have the interests of shareholders and staff to consider, and both could benefit.

Because there seems little doubt that Mr Tung would instil fresh dynamism into a group that under its lively chairman, Mr Brian Shaw, is already on the upgrade after years in the doldrums, Far East shipowners, of whom Mr Tung is a leader, are currently exhibiting just the expansionist-entrepreneurial skill that our Victorian forebears did to establish these household names of British shipping in the first place.

A measure of refertilization of the parent by the offspring as it were may be fruitful. This after all is the thinking behind the BL deal with Honda.

Doubts arise over defence, employment, and the domino effect of the sale of main British shipping outlets abroad. Merchant shipping has a strong strategic value; and whatever assurances Mr Tung gives about keeping Furness Withy under the United Kingdom flag, would they hold in the event of a resale by him to someone else?

The same question applies to employment. Yet it is worth remarking that a third of Britain's fleet is already owned abroad by American, Eastern and European companies, who find the Red Ensign a very convenient flag to fly.

As for the domino effect, the Depart-

ment of Trade could, presumably, stop that where British interests were threatened, even if they were held not to be so in this case.

Particular conflict could arise in the North Atlantic where the Furness Withy's Manchester Liners is in competition with the Dart container consortium which the Tung company shares with Bibby and the Company Maritime Belge; and in the Far East trade where Tung is in a rival to OCL's trio consortium. But these can be resolved.

More to the point is South America, the one great trade area still to be containerized where Furness Withy is the OCL partner with existing trading rights. If the other OCL partners: P & O, Ocean, and British & Commonwealth, exercise their option to buy out Furness Withy, those rights too. But the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development code should keep them British.

Clearly there are a number of grounds for a possible reference to the Monopolies Commission which, following Friday's offer, is not being formally considered, and which Mr Tung says would kill the bid.

But while some United Kingdom owners still feel strongly that it should be so referred, they may by now be in a minority.

Michael Bailey

Court bans director for five years

Mr Ian Robert Law, a former chartered accountant, was disqualified by a High Court judge yesterday from holding office as a director of a company or being involved in its management for the next five years without leave of the court.

Mr Justice Dillon imposed the maximum disqualification after hearing an application by the Official Receiver. It was the first application of its kind to the court under the 1976 Insolvency Act.

Mr Law's conduct as a director of six companies, which had been wound up as insolvent, made him unfit to be concerned in the management of a company, the judge said.

Mr Law, of Sid Abbey, Sidmouth, Devon, had opposed the application through counsel.

Mr Peter Gibson, for the Official Receiver, said the application was being made to prevent Mr Law, an undischarged bankrupt, obtaining an automatic discharge in December, 1982, the fifth anniversary of his being adjudicated bankrupt.

Mr Law was a menace to creditors, said Mr Gibson, whether in a private capacity or acting through companies. The application was to ensure that the public was protected for the maximum possible period allowed under the Act.

The companies with which Mr Law was involved were: Maxwell Associates (Executive Selection) Ltd, wound up January, 1975; Maxwell Staff Ltd, wound up December, 1976; Maxwell Industrial Staff Ltd, wound up April, 1977; Rockstar Ltd and Muxgate Heating Ltd wound up November, 1977; and Sagar Securities Ltd wound up February, 1978.

Call for public sector to rethink research and development

The public sector is doing too much research and development in support of its purchasing decisions, according to a report published yesterday by the Government's Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development (ACARD).

The council is not arguing that the total amount of R and D should be reduced, but that it should be redistributed. The public-sector purchasing organizations should rely more on their suppliers' own R and D or should contract out more R and D work to the private sector.

This conclusion follows an investigation by an ACARD working group, led by Mr D. Downs of Ricardo Consulting Engineers, into five industries where the public sector dominates the United Kingdom market for goods or services.

These industries are coal mining machinery, rail transport, road construction, water supply and treatment, and gas supply and distribution.

Four guidelines are proposed by the ACARD group:

1. The R and D necessary to explore new concepts and systems of operation, or the safe and efficient operation of existing systems, is the proper responsibility of the purchaser.

2. R and D that should lead to products or expertise marketable outside the United Kingdom public sector is the proper responsibility of the supplier, in some cases with financial support from the purchaser.

3. Where a programme supported by the public sector is capable of leading within five years to equipment or expertise which can be marketed outside the United Kingdom public sector, there should be private sector participation in planning, direction and funding of the work.

Technology News

4. Such participation should normally extend to control, and substantial funding, if export sales and other United Kingdom sales are likely to exceed the public-sector requirement.

But a sudden transfer of R and D to the private sector would not be wise, the report states. As an interim measure R and D boards might be set up to formulate and oversee the R and D programme, and public-sector purchasers. These would include representatives of both purchasers and suppliers.

Mr Downs said that at the start of the group's investigation there was a feeling that the large public-sector organizations might not be getting the best deal in their R and D; might not have the advantage of competitive bids from several outside suppliers; and, most importantly, were weakening the technical base of industry and making it more difficult for industry to compete in world markets.

"R and D for public purchasing," Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development (HMSO, £2.50).

Competition success

Fifty-nine of the 218 projects which were submitted for the British Microprocessor Competition have attracted the interest of the National Research Development Corporation as candidates for future NRDC investment. The organizations and individuals con-

cerned have been invited to discuss possible joint ventures with the corporation.

The competition was organized jointly by the NRDC and the National Computing Centre last September to encourage the application of microprocessors in new products, processes and services. Yesterday the winners were presented with their awards in London by Sir Keith Joseph.

Four criteria were used in judging the competition: degree of novelty, potential commercial value, technical and commercial possibility and standard of documentation. Two main categories—covered projects in working-model form and those on paper; and a special prize was awarded to a school project.

The six prize-winners—representing six different categories. They are a small firm, a subsidiary of a large company, a commonwealth ship company, a university team, private individual and a school.

The winner of the first prize of £10,000 for the best invention incorporating a microprocessor and demonstrated as a working model was Sinar Agritec of Egham, Surrey, for an automatic moisture meter for grain, seed, rice and other crops. This, the judges said, was "a brilliant combination of inventive genius and hard-headed practicality".

Three aspects of the design were judged to be particularly impressive: ingenuity in the weighing and water-content measurement; efficiency in compressing the calibration data for different crops into a single microcircuit; and simplicity in the method of operating the device. Worldwide market prospects are believed to be excellent.

Second prize in this category went to a team from the mechanical engineering department of University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, for an interactive programming system for numerically controlled lathes. Here the main merit was that skilled machinists can use their knowledge while the microprocessor takes the drudgery out of routine metal machining operations.

The programming is done by the machinist and not by specialist computer programmers, drawing on pre-programmed data to handle the main variables. Inventions such as this one could "invigorate Britain's struggling machine tool industry", the judges said.

Third prize for working models went to Grundy Terminals for the company's "True-stock" stock control system. The main novelty here is the simple method of using the system: parts are identified simply by pointing a light pen at the appropriate part of an overlay drawing.

In the second category, for paper projects, the winner was MBE Electronics (UK) of Deptford, London, for a portable electrocardiograph machine. Second was Mr C. Cose of Twickenham for an electronic aid for people with speech handicaps.

The special prize for a school project showing both inventive flair and a good understanding of microprocessors was awarded to Graeme Harker and Anthony McKay of the Royal Grammar School, Newcastle upon Tyne, for a microprocessor-controlled theatre lighting system.

Underwater venture

A British centre for underwater technology is to be set up jointly by Houlder Offshore, offshore service and rig management company, and Comex, the French group which provides diving services and underwater equipment.

In a £6m deal Houlder Offshore, a member of the Furness Withy group, has acquired a 50 per cent interest in Comex Diving, and has increased its holding from 2 per cent to 16 per cent in the parent Comex SA company.

The two companies have already worked in close association over a number of years in the North Sea. The strengthened partnership should give a strong marketing base to Houlder, the Far East founded on the French company's activities in Indonesia, China and the Soviet Union.

Kenneth Owen and Bill Johnstone

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Inflation accounting and the test of industrial realism

From Mr A. J. Merrett and Mr Allen Sykes

Sir, In his March 10 article Geoffrey Whittington criticizes other participants in the inflation accounting debate for failing either to give clear definitions or to reveal their implicit assumptions. Regrettably his article primarily demonstrates that he has not read our original article or first letter (February 25) at all carefully, and is himself guilty of what he imputes to others. He takes no notice of the careful distinctions we have made and imputes to us views we do not hold. Further in no sense is he a supporter of ED 24 but rather of an enhanced CPP method. Our second letter, published simultaneously with his article answers at least one of his points (the automatic allowance for gearing) but the remainder require a reply.

The first point to note is that he virtually ignores our basic distinction between productive and investment assets. This is shown most clearly in his use of house ownership as an example rather than an industrial productive asset. Yet a house is not a satisfactory example of a productive asset. It is primarily an investment asset and so cannot be used to disprove our reasoning on productive assets. It should be obvious that a house is essentially an investment asset, a false analogy with industrial assets, and its life usually exceeds well beyond that of its owners.

Further, unlike most productive assets it has a ready secondhand market and resale values almost equal replacement costs. If we were to live forever, however, and so would always need at least a minimum sized house, such a house would be a productive asset, and rise in its resale value would typically be of little use to us and certainly not a realistic part of our income since we all have to continue to live somewhere. Given, however, that most of us own houses temporarily (certainly large family houses which we usually sell on retirement for a smaller one) it is clear that most houses are primarily investment assets,

that is essentially sources of future realizable capital.

The contrast between such assets and the typical industrial productive asset is very considerable, as our article showed. It should therefore be noted that we were most careful not to say that rises in asset values could never give rise to gains—in fact we say almost the opposite. We point out that where rises in the replacement cost of productive assets can be passed on in full and earn an acceptable return against this is a welcome event and replacement costs would not be justified. But where replacement costs rises in productive assets cannot be passed on in full, still less earn an acceptable profit, then there is a problem. Our second letter points out that there is no benefit from so-called "holding gains".

By definition future profits (and future cash flows) will be lower. Yet in these circumstances ED 24 will record at least the borrowed-realized portion of holding gains as a profit—a profit presumably to be taxed, to be used for dividends, higher wages, etc. Our argument is that patently there is no profit at all. It is only thought to exist in such circumstances because of the false analogy with investment assets (where such rises are unreservedly to be welcomed), a false analogy which Whittington makes in common with ED 24 proponents.

It is because we do not share the view that rises in replacement costs on productive assets are welcome events as they are for investment assets, that we do take a gloomier view of the current prospects for much of British industry than Mr Whittington and ED 24 proponents. As our article pointed out, the stock market is strikingly out of line with what average industrial companies are trading at under a third of the replacement costs of their assets, a huge and ominous discrepancy. In other words the stock market does not accept the validity of the benefits from holding gains on productive assets, the overwhelming proportion of indus-

trial assets. If it does, shares would be high as at present. Whittington's broadly right but incorrectly perceived there can be a improvement in the fits (requiring a reduction in productivity) much industry will not replace its existing assets when they wear out. This is a matter of industrial matters, cause it important for all of profits; realistically can any remedies be necessary.

To aid in the industrial reality, Mr Whittington and ED 24 proponents must first answer a question: British Leyland in last five years and ment costs rise in 20 per cent. This is a gain of £55 and cost of £40. Suppose machinery replacement cost 40 per cent. Then it is added to CCA, per cent of gear or any cements for the 20 p. in replacement cost. This would cause Brit to contract?

This, rather than owned house is a correct example of production asset. It is a machine which produces a distributable profit in the future; unless can properly be tax less these rises can taken into account. Then CCA p are reduced. A. J. MERRETT and ALLEN SYKES, Mallington, The Mc Leatherhead.

Qualification of secretary

From Mr J. H. Treisman

Sir, The new clause (No 75) added to the Companies Bill in the Commons states:

"It shall be the duty of the directors of a public company to take all reasonable steps to secure that the secretary, or each joint secretary, of the company is a person who appears to them to have the requisite knowledge and experience to discharge the functions of secretary of the company."

The clause goes on to state:

(a) the Office of secretary or deputy secretary on the appointed day;

(b) had held the office of secretary in a company other than a public company prior to his appointment;

(c) is a member of certain bodies mentioned in sub section 2;

(d) is a barrister, advocate or solicitor in the United Kingdom;

(e) is a person who by virtue of his holding or having held any other position, or being a member of any other body,

appears to the directors to be capable of discharging those functions.

The listed bodies are the members of the CCAB plus the Chartered Secretaries and Administrators.

It is the society's contention that, notwithstanding the understanding given by the Under Secretary for Trade, that this clause is not merely unnecessary as (a) is the situation as it exists, and if one has (e) why have (c) and (d)?

The directors to believe that the bodies mentioned in (c) are better able to qualify their members for the post than "other bodies" in (e).

This is so obviously wrong that the society has asked the directors to vote against the inclusion of this clause when the Bill returns to the Lords.

Yours faithfully, JOHN H. TRESMAN, Executive Director and Secretary, The Society of Company and Commercial Accountants, 11 Portland Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B16 9HW.

Short-sighted

From Mr David L. Jackson

Sir, Mr Baker (March 11) paints a woe-filled picture as to where anybody who is unsophisticated in financial affairs should now go for financial advice. The banks purport to provide a service of what sort of service is it that encourages people to borrow at over 30 per cent per annum? I agree with him that the use of credit cards has many advantages if the extended credit offered is not taken up but that is how Barclaycard and Access make their money.

Does the public, as Mr Baker suggests, have to learn the hard way that its friendly bank manager is a wolf in sheep's clothing nowadays and far from giving advice simply points people in a direction where maximum interest can accrue to the bank? I for one think this is very short sighted behaviour for the banks (today's borrower may be tomorrow's depositor) and at the same time it contributes to a gradual erosion of respect for one of the country's main institutions.

Yours faithfully, DAVID JACKSON, 56 Yarmouth Place, London W1Y 7DW, March 12.

Language aid

From Mr L. N. Brown

Sir, The recent article (March 10) by Mr Bob Crew drew attention to the importance of British engineers, lawyers and other professional having competence in foreign languages. Here in Birmingham University the Faculty of Law and the Department of French have, since 1976, been offering a new four-year course which combines the study of English and French law with the study of French language, and leads to an LL.B. Law with French degree. The student spends his or her third year in the Law Faculty of Limoges University.

The course has been heavily oversubscribed by highly qualified school-leavers, who evidently wish to improve their skill in a foreign language while at the same time pursuing a vocationally oriented course.

Birmingham is now only one of some half dozen British law schools providing law and language courses, a combination which was given strong support by the Advisory Committee on Legal Education in a report issued under Lord Justice Lawton's chairmanship in 1978. L. NEVILLE BROWN, University of Birmingham, Birmingham B15 2TT.

Disputes threat to nuclear power

From Mr Frank Pilkington

Sir, The Government's present energy policy takes into account the instability of the oil producing countries and the crucial position of the miners. But in deciding to embark on a programme of 10 nuclear stations over the next decade it seems to be placing its head firmly in the lion's mouth. Both during the final stages of nuclear plant construction and during operation, the vast sums of capital involved (over one billion pounds for a Pressurized Water Reactor) are severely endangered by the possibility of industrial action by a few employees.

The Central Electricity Generating Board's £560 million Isle of Grain power plant has recently been held up by the action of a mere 27 liggers in its final stages of construction. The CEBG has stated that

it wants each nuclear station completed within six to seven years. At any one time £5 billion would be invested in construction before any energy was produced. But if the Isle of Grain oil fired station's experience was to be repeated, an extra £5 billion would also be tied up because of delays, "comparable to the annual capital investment in British manufacturing industry", as the *Sunday Times* recently pointed out.

Again during the present steel strike, we have seen how the withdrawal of safety work at Europe's biggest blastfurnace at Redcar was only narrowly averted. The colossal loss of investment—£110 million—that the irrevocable damage to the furnace would have caused can only be contrasted with the potency of this blackmail weapon in the hands of the few safety workers concerned.

In the case of nuclear the low level of employed does not seem to be a major factor. There is no reason National Union of Workers should not emerge and the worker nuclear power station in an excellent position to strength part of the nuclear industry. It would be wiser to rap all some energy, especially those withdrawal of labour do automatically bring about destruction of capital. If heavy reliance is placed nuclear power, then the force would have to be a concept unacceptable a democratic country such as ours. Yours faithfully, FRANK PILKINGTON, 44 Josephine Avenue, London, SW2.

UBAF BANK LIMITED

Balance Sheet at 31 December 1979

	£		£
Share Capital and Reserves		Current Assets	
Authorised shares of £1 each	16,000,000	Cash, balances at bankers, money at call and short notice	162,861,326
Issued ordinary shares of £1 each	16,000,000	Bills discounted	6,443,803
General reserve	4,250,000	Deposits with banks	118,897,696
Retained profit	182,202	Certificates of deposit purchased	5,718,588
	20,432,202	Loans and advances	45,505,447
Shareholders' subordinated loans U.S. \$11,680,000	5,249,438	Debtors and prepayments	797,625
	25,681,640		340,224,285
Deferred Taxation	3,831,054		
Current Liabilities		Loans and Advances over one year	132,124,519
Current and deposit accounts	433,517,089		
Certificates of deposit issued	5,343,444	Investments—Unlisted at cost (directors' valuation)	517,401
Taxation	368,170		
Creditors and accruals	3,388,669	Fixed Assets	263,841
Proposed dividend	1,000,000		
	443,617,352		
	£473,130,046		£473,130,046

Extracts from the Chairman's Statement

The trading profit for 1979 was £4,391,691 compared with £3,618,842 for the previous year. The sum of £1,250,000 has been transferred to General Reserve. The Board recommends a dividend of £1,000,000 (7.27% on the increased capital averaged over the year, in comparison with 7% for 1978).

P.O. Box 169, Commercial Union Building, St. Helen's, 1 Undershaft, London EC3P 3HT.

Ubic Nederland B.V.—50%

SHAREHOLDERS:

Libyan Arab Foreign Bank—25%

Midland Bank Limited—25%

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

First thoughts on the Carter package

Financial markets gave an thumbs up" yesterday to President anti-inflation package. True, the et profit-taking in New York after anial rises in other markets earlier y. But the undertone appeared firm and majority financial opinion to have been suitably impressed by rican measures.

said, a great deal of international as clearly moving into the dollar the prospect of still higher United interest rates in the short-term. Three- money rates in New York moved e 18 per cent level and prime rates cent plus cannot now be far off.

ong that money will stay there is, another and rather more important

It is going to take time for the n measures to work an the real test American authorities will lie in their to keep the screws turned tight or long enough.

While, sterling again behaved with resilience in the weighted terms to ly fractionally lower, the day been almost 1 per cent off before A February current account deficit 1, if nothing got about, was at mewhat better in both size and than had been generally expected; b big shakeout in many (dollar ted) commodities can only be good the months ahead.

s important for the authorities at the is the way in which sterling interest e managing to hold their ground e pressure of rising dollar rates. sion rates were rather firmer in late yesterday, but the authorities btless be well satisfied if they can 18 per cent ceiling on rates over the weeks.

will doubtless suit the Chancellor too, at his Budget speech is now going to be rather different from the one that have been forming in his mind rn of the year.

zingly the smart money has firmly n the sidelines following the Carter package. Opinions differ about imate impact of the proposed s but with short-term Eurodollar rates around six points above bond ere is clearly no urgency to do any- sh.

day the LIBOR three-months rate a point to stand at over 20 per cent yield on five to seven years dollar as only around 14 per cent.

ne clear thing from the interest r is that the pressure on other cur- is becoming intolerable. With the elding as much as 50 per cent more : Deutschmark and nearly 70 per cent than the Swiss franc some fur- tments in rates seem on the cards question now is when that will

recently announced 9 per cent in the s discount rate now looks puny and set to go further. As for sterling, ked an impossibly high rate only, go now looks quite normal and the- ected bull market in gilts may take o come about.

as Euromarket rates are concerned, now a gaping anomaly. Long-term e traditionally higher than short- while the precise reverse is the

now

icans have become cynical about dministration's economic packages. Presidential and other elections just the corner they are not sure how s will respond to the Carter plan y case it is clear that at best infla- take time to begin falling. Euro- in the other hand, are more prone he longer view.

see some light at the end of the What the Carter package has almost y done is to make sure that a reces- coming and that it will bite hard. ggests that the oil price, in real, t least, is unlikely to make spe- progress, that commodity prices will fall and that demand for money, nually fall.

then will take the classical shape of nes of interest and an eventual bull in long term bonds.

Developments

ing

ity

gain Barratt Developments has pro- set of figures which fly in the face nventional wisdom about the house- ector. After six months, profits per cent higher at £11.5m and that alse sales gain of 36 per cent at

So Barratt is natching up its mar- a housing market which looks well : worst recession since the war.

overseas, especially in the United States with SW Industries and Worcester, is improving its geographical profile and the rectum link with Swiss should help the expanding Far Eastern interests.

Eve without further acquisitions, which could include a return for Reston where it retains its 25 per cent stake, after last year's takeover defeat, BTR is still confident of further growth in the current year even though the fully-taxed p/e ratio of 12½, getting on for twice the market average, leaves little room for any disappointment.

Even with a one for three scrip issue and a better than expected dividend increase to 16.4p gross giving a more respectable 5 per cent yield, the shares only managed to hold their own at 326p although the market was weak yesterday.

For the moment another of BTR's regular rights calls look unnecessary given the stronger balance sheet and a £7m rise in liquid resources last year but it seems just as clear that the group would like a sizable takeover, perhaps in the United States, to add to its steady stream of small acquisitions.

the employers of the state hydrocarbons cor- ENI, who have been ing their Prime Minis- cessa Cossiga with tele- o decide their future em, know where they

Egidi, who came in ember as a temporary ent commissioner to until the end of Jaco- sing confirmed as their nt chairman.

o Mazzanti, his pre- o has been cleared by riment of misconduct \$114m-worth of "com- " paid under an oil h Petromin of Saudi

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The Consumers' Association library recently ordered a book called The Might Micro: Impact of the Computer Revolution. The book was late in coming, and arrived with a plaintive note which said: "We apologise for the delay in processing your order. This was caused by a major computer failure which has now been rectified."

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Hugh Clayton

Farming: the old alliance under strain

The love affair is over. Farmers and the Government have fallen out. The billing and cooing that lasted for most of last year has been replaced by snarling recrimination.

A Hampshire farmer said recently to Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food: "I am not getting any price incentive out of the market to expand my production. We need to use the money we would like to invest to keep our businesses ticking over. We need to use it to pay these very high rates of interest."

The exchange was interesting because he was a Conservative speaking at a meeting of Conservatives, held at Newbury, Berkshire. He remembered Mr Walker at meetings of the Young Conservatives many years ago.

Mr Walker's reply gave a reminder of the special relationship between the present Government and farmers. "Last year was a bad year for lamb because of the winter," he said. "I personally decided to increase the size of my flock. I do not look with a gloomy eye at the prospects for the lamb flock in the coming years."

The Conservative Party is stuffed with politicians who are also farmers. When Mr Walker received record increases in subsidies for hill livestock last year, he was one of the beneficiaries.

In fact, all four ministers in his department are farmers. Other parliamentary colleagues who farm include Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, has

been a member of the National Farmers' Union for more than 30 years. Sir William Elliott, Conservative MP for Newcastle-on-Tyne, North, and chairman of the Commons Select Committee on Agriculture, has farmed since 1939.

Mr John Spence, Conservative MP for Thirsk and Malton and a member of the Select Committee, says in *Who's Who* that he is a member of the National Farmers' Union and the Country Landowners' Association. Mr Peter Mills, Conservative MP for Devon, West, and chairman of the Parliamentary party's committee on agriculture, fisheries and food, has farmed since 1943.

It would be wrong to assume that the farming interest among Conservative politicians is confined to a declining and antiquated squirearchy. Mr Delwyn Williams, who entered the Commons for the first time last year after taking Montgomery from the Liberals, is a farmer's son. Sir Henry Plumb, president of the National Farmers' Union from 1970 to 1979, fought the first direct elections to the European Parliament as a Conservative and is now chairman of the agriculture committee.

Mr Richard Butler, his successor as president of the NFU, is a son of Lord Butler of Saferton Walden and a brother of Mr Adam Butler, Minister of State at the Department of Industry.

It is not surprising that farmers believed that the arrival of a Conservative Government would herald a new age of prosperity and cordial relations after the dark years in which



Mr Peter Walker (left), Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and Mr Richard Butler, President of the National Farmers' Union. "The Government must provide further resources"

their affairs were directed by Mr John Silkin.

At first the magic worked. The Conservatives gave themselves five years in their manifesto to eliminate the green pound gap which had been the pivot of farmers' complaints against the Labour government. The green pound was used in the late 1970s as a device for holding down the price of food in Britain.

In 1976 the level of farm prices in Britain was at times more than 40 per cent below that in the rest of the EEC. The strengthening of the pound in the past year and the decision of the Conservatives to devalue the green pound three times eliminated the gap not in five years, but in less than one.

The partnership between farming Conservatives in Westminster and Conservative farmers in the NFU seemed to be working. The love affair reached its height late last year when Mr Butler went to Number 10 Downing Street to see the Prime Minister and Mr Walker. He emerged glowing with optimism.

Since then the union has tabled a long list of further demands which have not yet been met. Mr Butler acknowledged at the annual meeting of the union that the Government had done much for farmers in 1979 but it added ominously: "The Govern-

ment must, by one measure or another, provide further resources."

The gulf between ministers and farmers has widened this year during the long-run-up to the EEC price-fixing for the coming 12 months. The NFU supports the claim by Coua, the EEC committee of agricultural producers' organizations, for an average rise of 7.9 per cent in Community-wide prices for foods covered by the Common Agricultural Policy.

It also wants the Government to consider awarding extra increases in Britain with what are described disparagingly as "positive monetary compensation amounts". That is convenient mumbo-jumbo to disguise the fact that after years of campaigning for the green pound gap to be closed, farmers want it to be opened again in the opposite direction.

In other words, after campaigning for British prices to be raised to the level of the rest of the EEC, and having won the campaign, they now want them to be beyond the level of the rest of the Community. The NFU says that higher prices are justified in Britain because rates of interest and inflation are higher in this country than elsewhere.

The union has encouraged a belief among members that it can hit targets which the Government will not allow it to touch. Mr Walker dismissed the Coua claim at Newbury, saying that it was based on an out of date formula.

Mr Butler forgot when he harangued the Prime Minister and Mr Walker at Number 10 that he was addressing a grocer's daughter and a grocer's son. He forgot that the Conservative manifesto said that "our agricultural and our food industries are as important as any that we have."

The food processing industry and the grocery trade have implored Mr Walker to be seduced by farmers' claims for large price rises, saying that they will simply depress demand for food.

Mr Tim Forrester, secretary-general of the Food and Drink Industries Council, told farmers at Newbury: "Farmers all over Europe are producing non-food to be bought by importation boards and stored and never to be sold again. The prices are going to go down. There is absolutely no escaping from it."

The food processing industry also has lines of communication to the Government. Mr Forrester was a Conservative MP for almost eight years and spent time in the "whip's office" under Mr Heath. Mr Butler appears to have forgotten his father's dictum that "the art of government is only the art of what is possible."

Why employers dislike strike reform proposals



Striking steel workers picket the Port Talbot BSC plant, South Wales.

who regularly conduct a substantial part of their business with such a party."

A common view is that if the changes are to have any significant effect, immunity should be confined entirely to industrial action at the place of work. Employers argue that the proposals could block the possibility of further legislation restricting immunities solely to "primary" industrial action, even if this is seen later as being sound.

They also argue that by recognising any degree of action at all beyond that involving the employer in dispute, as respectable and legitimate, the provisions will simply open the gates to all forms of disruption outside the place of work.

Secondly, there is concern among a strong body of employers that they should be able to take out a court injunction against unions rather than individuals and to seek recompense from union funds.

Finally, some industry representatives are proposing a third test: which industrial action must satisfy before it can be regarded as in furtherance of a dispute and therefore attract immunity. The two tests already proposed by the Secretary of State for Employment are: whether or not action taken was "reasonably

capable" of furthering the dispute in question and whether or not it was taken predominantly in pursuit of that dispute and not principally for some "extraneous motive".

These are, of course, two of the basic tests which the Court of Appeal was developing before the recent House of Lords judgments on Express Newspapers v. MacShane and Dupont Steels and others v. Sirs and others. But some employers would like to add another which is a trade union would have to exhaust agreed dispute procedures including the use of arbitration, and to go through a secret ballot before calling industrial action. There are those, too, who would like to see this test applied before any social payments are made to strikers dependent on it.

It also wants to give minority groups of trade unionists the statutory right to call a ballot in given circumstances in the same way that a minority of shareholders can seek an overall expression of views. The Association of British Chambers of Commerce has reservations about whether the widening of the conscience provisions for non-union membership will work in practice. Instead it would like dismissal for non-union membership to no longer provide grounds for fair dismissal in any circumstances. This

would remove legal protection for employers who sacked an employee in order to appease a union, by making them liable to pay compensation.

The Engineering Employers' Federation has different reasons for objecting to the "conscience provisions". Its view is that widening the grounds for non-union membership or membership of any particular union could disrupt existing stable bargaining arrangements by encouraging splinter groups to defect.

The EEP's view is supported by others, particularly employers such as the nationalised industries who have had long experience of working with closed shops and who believe that the proposals would merely create opportunities for mavericks to make mischief. This group thinks it would be better

to concentrate on making agreements with unions and getting them to honour them.

If nothing else, the proposals have been useful in forcing employers and their representatives to clarify their views on where they stand in relation to trade unions. It is a pity that the legislative document, against which the talks are taking place was not easier to understand. The Bill is a mass of subsections, headings, hyphens and cross references to earlier legislation. Some clauses defy even the experts.

The most common misunderstanding is that the proposed new law will require union to hold a ballot and obtain a 50 per cent approval before negotiating a closed shop. This may be the intention but as Mr R. C. Sansom, director of the Contractors' Plant Association, has pointed out, the actual proposed legislation does nothing of the sort. It merely provides grounds for an unfair dismissal action by an employee who has been sacked for non-compliance if such a ballot has not been held.

It cannot be much encouragement to the Government that so many industrialists, for different reasons, think that the proposals intended to help them will do more harm than good.

But industrialists realize perfectly well that the Government can only move as fast as public opinion will permit. Their dilemma is whether they should present their case as "what in an ideal world they would want or whether they should argue only for what they could reasonably expect to get."

Patricia Tisdall

Business Diary: Pouring oil on troubled ENI • Slam tomorrow

the employers of the state hydrocarbons cor- ENI, who have been ing their Prime Minis- cessa Cossiga with tele- o decide their future em, know where they

Egidi, who came in ember as a temporary ent commissioner to until the end of Jaco- sing confirmed as their nt chairman.

o Mazzanti, his pre- o has been cleared by riment of misconduct \$114m-worth of "com- " paid under an oil h Petromin of Saudi

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"Certainly, Prime Minister, cuts of an extra three and a half billion in central and local government expenditure by 3.15 this afternoon. Shall I repeat that, madam?"

Americans have been told in a blaze of publicity, ignited by the White House, that cuts in government services are to clamp down inflation. But as voters turn out for the presidential primaries in Illinois today they have not the foggiest about what services will suffer.

In New York and Connecticut next week, nobody will be any the wiser.

President Carter may be cack-handed about some things but he is too astute a campaigner to let voters, whose support he needs, know how hard he is about to club them over their heads. He will not, even say whether he has decided to cut Saturday post as rumoured.

The National Enterprise Board may be much smaller than before, but that does not mean to say that it is being let out of the sight of the Industry Secretary, Sir Keith Joseph. A Department of Industry under-secretary will be moving down Victoria Street at the end of this month to take over as secretary to the board.

Brian Willett will be replacing John Caines, another civil servant who has been on secondment to the NEB, survived the boardroom upheaval at the end of last year when the old board and its chairman Sir Leslie Murphy resigned and transferred back to the DoI of responsibility for Rolls Royce.

Caines returns to the Department of Trade on completion of his three-year stint. By the time Willett takes over, life at the NEB should be a bit steadier as Sir Arthur Knight and his new board settle down on its shorter lease.

Among his other tasks in the Civil Service Willett has been secretary to the Industrial Development Advisory Board, a lot of eminent outsiders to whom the Government turns to advice before splashing out on aid for big projects.

He also is well qualified for the NEB's role as a catalyst for high technology industry.

Michael Vaughan, a young Canadian, is trying to "muscle" in on the British seafood market. He has been showing off four-oh Canadian molluscs at London's Inn on the Park, where they were served seven different ways to make their mark against the smaller cousins clinging to our coasts.

"Which our mussels you get four times as much meat per pint," he boasts, "but that's hardly surprising since they are so cosseted. We raise them in nylon stockings suspended from buoys off Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. That way they live very clean lives—no dead crabs, or bits of grit and sand."

Vaughan's cultivated mussels already sell in New York, though freight costs alone are higher than the selling price there for the wild article.

BL's plans to renew its aging range of cars are given pitch and point by an announcement from a London firm that it is to replace its fleet of German BMWs with BL motors. The company is in antiquities and its motto is "Established in the Twentieth Century for the perpetuation of all that is good from the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries."

Barratt Developments Limited

INTERIM STATEMENT

FURTHER OUTSTANDING PROGRESS

The Barratt Group made further major progress during the six months ended 31st December, 1979, and ended the decade with the best ever half year results. The following are the unaudited results of the Group:

	Half Year ended 31st December 1979	Half Year ended 31st December 1978
Turnover	£600,102,301	£500,755,449
Net Profit	11,509,230	8,157,230
Taxation	9,209,230	8,157,230

The Group's position as Britain's major private housebuilder was further consolidated with an increasing share of the market with the newer subsidiaries in the South and the Midlands making an increasingly important contribution. In the Group's more traditional markets in the North and in Scotland, three recent acquisitions with a total cash cost of £6.5 million, will enable it to maintain its market leadership in these areas.

The policy of expanding the property investment portfolio continues to gain momentum and a substantial number of commercial and industrial projects will become income producing during the next eighteen months. The Group is on target to meet its objective of £3 million of property investment income by 30th June, 1981.

Other sectors of the Group's business also made progress. The property conversion company continues to expand, contracting is currently profitable though unlikely to make a significant contribution to the Group's annual result and the diversification into the leisure industry is at an advanced stage with construction due to commence this month.

During the period the Group has successfully concluded negotiations with the major clearing banks and now has available to it £30 million of bank finance of between five and ten years at variable rates of interest in addition to substantial overdraft facilities.

These facilities taken in conjunction with the extremely strong land bank and buoyant demand for its products enable the Group to look forward with confidence not only to the end of its financial year, but well beyond.

An interim dividend of 3.5p net per share has been declared and this will be payable on 30th May, 1980, to shareholders on the register at close of business on 2nd May, 1980. This is an increase of 20% over the comparable dividend paid last year.

L. A. BARRATT Chairman

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Selling in oils, golds; index 6 pts down

Trading began on a cautious note again yesterday, as dealers began the second leg of the recovery in a nervous mood ahead of the February trade figures.

Comment: all last week that one broker may be in trouble following the recent plunge in secondary oils and Australian issues, helped to, unsteady things. But in the event, although several names were bandied about, it all proved to be of no avail as account day passed off normally.

Instead, dealers were left to ponder over what surprises the Chancellor may have in his Budget speech now only eight days' business away and the latest anti-inflation package delivered by President Carter over the weekend. As a result, it all provided for a rather dull trading session, with the general lack of interest tending to lead prices drift easier.

Oils again came in for a battering but this time accompanied by golds which were weaker on the lower bullion price. Selling was reported by both sectors and, with the extreme volatility being experienced, brokers were anticipating a few days' more of rough passage before prices started to steady themselves.

Despite the selling pressure in oils, jobbers were now beginning to discount the "windfall tax" being predicted in some quarters, but were now very much resigned to the idea of an increase in petroleum revenue tax. However, this was of little consolation to the shares which continued to drift throughout the day.

The trade figures were almost instantly dismissed and despite a tendency to make things firmer in after hours, made very little impact. The

overall deficit of £176m was judged to be pretty deplorable, but it was still a better performance than the previous set of figures.

As a result, gilts showed a slightly better tone in after hours, after earlier selling ahead of the figures.

Longer finished the day with falls averaging 1/2, while at the shorter end of the market, the

Reports of a second-half improvement are not helping Kitchen Queen. The shares have dipped 5p to 15p in the last week, 4 1/2 above the price paid for the former chairman's 28 per cent stake. Then the share price stood at 29p. With the group expected to announce interim losses of £300,000 soon the shares were holding steady at 15p yesterday.

Losses were between 5s and 1s. Leading industrials encountered small pockets of selling most of the day, but this had dried up by late afternoon, but in the event the FT Index closed at its lowest point, 6.7 down at 433.2.

Unilever was an unusually weak market, dipping 10p to

425p, while Fisons shed 5p at 274p and ICI closed 4p lower at 360p. Falls of a couple of pence were witnessed in Glaxo at 244p, Beecham at 116p, Pilkington Bros at 211p and BATs shed 3p to 233p.

While jobbers were able to report some good buyers about among the majors, the general lack of interest tended to push prices lower. BP finished 4p off at 346p, closely followed by Shell 12p lower at 358p and Ultramar which shed a similar amount to 484p.

Burmah drifted 10p to 194p, Tricentrol 12p to 264p and Lascos 15p to 428p.

Among the more speculative issues Viking held up fairly well after the latest proposed bid of 450p from Mr Bunker Hunt, which held the share price steady at 1050p, but selling knocked 52p from Siebens at 525p. Aram Energy, bottoming out after its recent cash call to shareholders, closed unchanged at 350p.

The weakness in oils soon spread to companies which March had interests in. Imperial Continental Gas tumbled 25p to 700p, International Thomson 15p to 429p, Associated Newspapers 8p

to 262p and Cawoods 2p to 160p.

Better than expected profits and a scrip issue from BTR saw the shares recover an early loss ahead of the figures, to close unchanged at 326p while in shipping improved full-year figures from James Fisher resulted in a 7p rise at 318p. Disappointing results clipped 1p from Beatson, Clark at 140p while Invercorgon closed unchanged at 221p after a useful profits increase but Pittard eased 1p to 43p.

Reports that Bass Chartering was interested in the hotel side of Coral Leisure sparked some early interest but the lack of follow through saw the shares close the day only 1p up at 76p with Bass 3p off at 215p. The recent failure to regain its gaming licence and the ensuing redundancies resulting from the closure of its casinos clipped 7p from Ladbroke at 134p.

Channel Tunnel was again wanted in a thin market as hopes of an imminent announcement of a rail link continued to rise and pushed the shares up another 90p to 225p.

Howard Tenens, which recently announced that its talks which might have led to a bid had broken down, staged a rally and hardened 1p to 72p along with Furness Withy, up 4p at 390p after the agreed bid on Friday from CY Tung. But De La Rue retreated 13p to 602p on profit taking and vague rumours of a rights issue being in the pipeline. However, these rumours were dismissed in certain quarters.

Banks remained on offer ahead of the full year figures. Barclays later in the week. Fear that the enormous profits earned by the big four continued to arouse further uneasiness among dealers. In the event, Barclays at 413p, Midland at 323p and National Westminster at 316p all showed losses of 7p on the day.

But Lloyds managed to hold its fall down to 5p at 278p, as Royal Bank of Scotland, with figures out soon slipped, 3p to 82p.

Gold shares came in for more heavy selling from London and the Continent as the bullion price plunged 55s to 547s 10/16. Fears over the latest fall in sterling, the strength of the dollar and President Carter's latest inflation package, all contributed towards a rather hectic day's trading which was predominantly all one way.

In mining financials, Consolidated Gold Fields tumbled 20p to 457p, RTZ eased 17p to 343p and De Beers D'vd 97/32 to 58-29/32.

Equity turnover on March 14 was £34,999m (12,846 bargains). Active stock yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Premier Coal, Shell, RTZ, Ultramar, BP, Burmah, Furness Withy, Lascos and GEC.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Alwood Machine (I)	0.47(0.56)	0.03(0.035)	(—)	(—)	(—)	(—)
Beatson Clark (F)	22.4(20.6)	1.6(2.38)	35.1(42.2)	5.4(4.5)	2/5	8.4(7.2)
BTR (F)	433.0(351.1)	37.2(40.1)	30.7(24.8)	6.0(4.1)	22/5	11.7(7.3)
Barratt Derv (I)	102.0(75.4)	11.5(8.1)	(—)	3.5(2.9)	2/5	(—)
James Fisher (F)	12.8(10.6)	3.3(2.2)	24.9(18.9)	2.0(1.5)	20/5	3.5(1.13)
R. Green Props (I)	2.1(2.4)	0.74(0.59)	3.35(2.67)	0.7(0.50)	28/4	(—)
Invercorgon Dist (F)	24.4(14.96)	4.18(2.467)	19.3(14.67)	2.50(1.14)	2/5	4.0(1.84)
Montagu Boston (F)	(—)	0.015(0.012)	(—)	1.05(0.87)	(—)	(—)
Pittard Grp (F)	23.6(16.0)	1.49(1.06)	15.5(11.9)	2.63(1.87)	(—)	4.0(3.10)
Raydon (F)	13.0(10.1)	1.8(1.4)	24.1(10.4)	3.73(—)	27/5	6.0(4.57)
Rivett Clemens (I)	0.06(0.04)	0.06(0.04)	24.1(14.3)	(—)	(—)	(—)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. * = Loss. † = 9 months.

Options

The traded options market continued to perform quietly yesterday and the total number of contracts remained at virtually the same as last Friday's level, at 369, compared with 365.

The main business was in Centrals with 105 contracts, while Consolidated Gold Fields whose shares lost 20p to 457p with the drop in the bullion price, traded 102 contracts.

On the traditional options side, there was more activity as dealers reported that buyers were moving in to hold their positions until after the Budget when the account ends on April 10.

Invercorgon profits top £4m

Invercorgon Distillers turned in profits of £4.18m before tax on sales of £24.4m in the year to December 31, compared with a profit of £2.46m on sales of £14.9m in the preceding nine months.

On an annualized basis, pre-tax profits have risen by 27 per cent while sales volume has shown an underlying increase of about a tenth. More of the group's production is new fillings—a clear colourless spirit—which is sold to other blenders.

Price rises averaging about 4 per cent in the second half, combined with improved yields from the group's main distillery where new equipment has been installed, contributed towards

the promised improvement in margins in the second half. The pre-tax margin on sales was 18 per cent compared with 16.2 per cent in the first half.

Exports of the group's own blend grain whisky, which is sold to own-brand whisky producers overseas, showed an annualized rise of a tenth to 19.3m, Invercorgon sells in sterling and the rise of the pound has not proved any great obstacle.

The final dividend, like the interim, has been more than doubled to give a year's total of 5.7p gross against 2.65p. But with the shares unchanged on the results, at 221p the yield is only 2.6 per cent and the p/e

ratio after a 10 per cent tax charge is 11.5.

Invercorgon is 76 per cent owned by Carlton Industries, which is in turn controlled by Hawker Siddeley and the shares have been the object of persistent bid rumours. However, chairman Mr Leon Roydon dismisses such talk.

For 1980, Mr Roydon expects Invercorgon to continue to share in the growth of the whisky industry. The forthcoming Budget may well include substantial rises in excise duty but for Invercorgon, with its orders for new fillings for 1980 already signed and sealed, this is unlikely to have any impact.

Briefly

R. Green Properties: Although turnover fell from £2.44m to £1.6m in the half-year to December 31, pre-tax profits rose from £1,000 to £42,000, interim dividend, gross, raised from 0.89p to 1p.

Nivell Cinemas: Turnover for six months to October 5 up to £9.9m from £8.5m and pre-tax profits from £46,000 to £69,000. Unilock Holdings is offering 440 10p shares for each 1 share in Nivell Cinemas.

A Sony official attributed the increase mainly to the brisk sales of video tape recorders. C. E. Heath is forming a new company, C. E. Heath (LAC), the company, subsidiary of C. E. Heath (Reinsurance Broking) will be operational from April 1.

Morgan Investment Trust: Reports revenue, after all charges, for year to January 31 of £151,000 (£129,000). Gross dividend raised from 1.3p to 1.5p.

Morgan Guaranty: The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a £5m line of credit which Morgan Guaranty has made available to the National Bank of Hungary. This is the fifth ECGD-backed line of credit made available by Morgan Guaranty to the National Bank of Hungary.

Holmann Group: Revising earlier predictions of little-changed 1979 profits compared to DM19.2m (about £4.5m) earned in 1978, Holmann AG, the West German heavy construction group, says it expects 1979 earnings to exceed the 1978 profit—AP-Dow Jones.

Gieves Group: At the extraordinary general meeting of the Gieves Group held on March 17, 1980, the resolution to effect the proposed reconstruction was passed. The meeting was adjourned until March 31, 1980 on which date the formal resolution to put the company into members' voluntary liquidation will be considered.

John Brown: New York, March 17.—John Brown and Co said its tender offer for Lessons Corp at \$40 a share expired on March 14 bringing in about 1.2m in Lessons shares or about 70.35 per cent.—Reuters.

Second half downturn at Beatson, Clark

By Rosemary Unsworth
Beatson, Clark, the Rotherham-based glass container manufacturer, saw its profits drop in the second half in line with expectations announced at the interim stage when profits almost halved.

On turnover which rose by 8 per cent to £22.4m, pre-tax profits were £1.6m for the year ending December 29, 1979, compared with the previous year's record £2.38m. Mr David Clark, the chairman, warned at the halfway stage that second half results would be comparable with those of the first.

Trading profit, before depreciation, which amounted to £1.5m against £46,000, also fell back from £3.7m in 1978 to £2.2m. Mr Clark pinpointed the problem as "one of falling demand in the pharmaceutical industry for the group's containers."

"Our original objective for 1979 was a 10 per cent increase in bottle sales, but in the event we only improved by 2 per cent," he said.

The group's exports were hit by the increased value of the pound and sales rose by 10 per cent to £4.5m. "As a result margins were forced down," Mr Clark pointed out.

Despite the profits the final dividend for 1979 was 4.3p, compared with 4.5p in 1978. "We have increased as a sign of performance," said the chairman.

But he stressed it was too early to predict for the current year he had recently been by improved demand.

With the share 1p to 140p on the day, the p/e ratio

Pittard Group raises dividend

By Peter Wilson-Smith

After raising profits by 64 per cent in the first half, leather tanner Pittard Group managed only a one-tenth increase in the second.

Sales growth was broadly maintained but first half stock profits were replaced by stock losses and the strength of sterling eroded export margins and led to fiercer competition in the United Kingdom.

However, the 40 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £4.8m in the year to December 31, on sales ahead from £16.0m to £23.5m, was accompanied by a 29 per cent rise in the year's dividend.

Hide prices, which account for over half of the finished leather price, oscillated wildly throughout 1979, rising to a peak in May and then falling by around three-fifths by the end of the year. Stock losses for the year were at least £100,000 compared with a £200,000 profit in 1978.

Although profits

forced as sterling

still pushed up

per cent to £2m

East becoming

an important

area. But

remains firm

and likely

to provide

growth opportunity

in the United

Kingdom. Mr

Clark should

have a recent

stagnation in

leather, and

from the loss

of the loss-making

factory.

The sale of the

site could raise

the net of redundancy

costs.

But weaker demand

and major customers

industry, and

increased

penetration from

competition suggest

will do well to rise

1980. Down 1p at

43p, the p/e ratio

fully taxed p/e ratio

Record quarterly profit for Sony

Sony of Japan announced yesterday that its consolidated net profit in the first quarter to January 31 was a record 19,327m yen, up sharply from 14,412m yen in the same period a year earlier.

The net profit in the first quarter topped the entire net profit of 17,700m yen in the previous fiscal year. Sales rose 47.6 per cent to 221,962m yen from 150,341m.

A Sony official attributed the increase mainly to the brisk sales of video tape recorders and related products, as well as those of other main electric appliances.

Although foreign exchange losses almost doubled to 4,065m yen, mainly because of the yen's depreciation, the healthy growth in sales eliminated the exchange losses as well as cost increases.

Fried Krupp GmbH of West Germany expects to show a profit on the group's operations in 1979 compared with a loss of DM122m (about £28.8m) in 1978, according to the chairman, Herr Heinz Petry.

This is based on the expectation of a balanced result on steelmaking activities, the first since 1974, he said.

Krupp announced earlier world group sales of DM14.26bn in 1979 against DM13.32bn in 1978.

Sandoz increased its consolidated net profit by 10.9 per cent to 173m Swiss francs (£43m) in 1979 from 156m francs in the previous year, improving its profitability rate to 3.9 per cent from 3.6 per cent a year earlier.

A more favourable foreign exchange situation, rationalization measures and price increases helped profits, Sandoz said. However, the company added that worldwide inflationary pressures could only be partly offset by higher selling prices.

An unchanged dividend of 65 francs a share and 13 francs for each participation certificate has been proposed.

Turnover for the parent company, Bayer AG, also grew by about DM1,500m, according to preliminary figures. Investments for the Bayer group were about DM2,000m in 1979, said Herr Gruenewald, up from DM1,700m in 1978.

The group recorded pre-tax income of DM1,240m in 1978 and the parent company showed a profit after tax of DM467m.

World turnover for the Bayer group rose 14 per cent to a preliminary DM26,000m, board chairman Herr Herbert Gruenewald said in a weekend speech.

He said that 1979 had been a good year for Bayer despite rises in the price of oil and other raw materials and cited the continuing strength of the West German economy as well as favourable capacity utilization.

Interim loss at Abwood Tools

In the six months to September 30, 1979, Dartford-based Abwood Machine Tools, which is estimated that Government regional development grants of £1.4m will be received. This compares with £16m spent on capital projects in 1978. Capital expenditure of £23m has been earmarked for 1980.

The board says the loss was due to the detrimental effects of the engineering strike in August and September and other factors associated with sales and administration.

Best-ever results by Kodak UK

Sales and earnings by Kodak Ltd. of the United Kingdom reached record levels in 1979. At £285m, sales by Kodak and its subsidiaries were up 13 per cent, mainly because of increased volume.

Sales within the United Kingdom at £176m, were 12 per cent higher than 1978. Export sales rose by 15 per cent to £109m despite lower prices—necessitated by the strengthening of sterling. Net

International

Domestic sales were

up 18 per

46,512m yen. Export

per cent to 145,820p

85,820m yen.

Sony said it

announces a record

net income for the

October 31, provided

no wide fluctuations

dollars exchange rate

it did not disclose

but consolidated

net said the present

25,370m net in the

October 1977.

French priv-

Union de Transpor

(UTA) has reported

profit for the 197

year of 39.4m fr

up from 35.3m in 19

Turnover rose by

2,862m. The airline

agreed to pay a net

10.30 francs a share

up from 9.40 francs

in 1978.

Banking Worms

Banking Worms, a

rate bank, posted a

for 1979 of 45.2

(£4.7m), an increase

cent on the 36m franc

for 1978.

The 1979 figure in

francs of non-recurr-

ing, up from 3m

for 1978. The bank

inter-tribute a net

dividend of 1

francs a share, up

1 francs for 1978.

Sofina proposal

The Belgian holding

Sofina has proposed

dividend increase for

235 Belgian francs a

share, up from 200

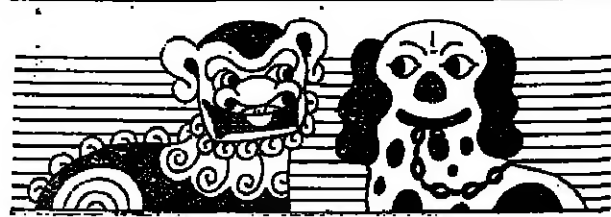
francs for 1978.

Sofina, with a capi-

tal of 3,000m francs,

has a portfolio of

diversified securities,



Salerooms and Antiques



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Today, Tuesday, March 18 at 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
TRIBAL ART. Catalogue £3.25.

Tuesday, March 19 at 11 a.m.
IMPORTANT ENGLISH DRAWINGS AND WATER-
COLOURS. Catalogue £4.25.

Tuesday, March 19 at 2.30 p.m.
THE BALDWIN COLLECTION OF ENGLISH
WATERCOLOURS, formed between 1826 and 1828.
Catalogue £3.25.

Wednesday, March 20 at 11 a.m.
MODERN SPORTING GUNS AND VINTAGE FIRE-
ARMS. Catalogue £1.25.

Wednesday, March 20 at 2.30 p.m.
FINE MINIATURES, OBJECTS OF VERTU, GOLD
BOXES AND RUSSIAN WORKS OF ART. Catalogue
£3.25.

Thursday, March 20 at 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
FINE ENGLISH FURNITURE, EASTERN RUGS AND
CARPETS. Catalogue £1.85.

Friday, March 21 at 11 a.m.
FINE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS. Catalogue £1.40.

Friday, March 21 at 2.30 p.m.
FINE CONTINENTAL PICTURES OF THE 19th AND
20th CENTURIES AND PRINTS OF ISLAND INTEREST. Catalogue £1.75.

Monday, March 24 at 10.30 a.m.
CHINESE CERAMICS AND WORKS OF ART. Catalogue
£1.85.

Tuesday, March 25 at 11 a.m.
IMPRESSIONIST AND MODERN PAINTINGS AND
SCULPTURE. Catalogue £3.25.

Tuesday, March 25 at 2.30 p.m. approximately
IMPRESSIONIST AND MODERN WATERCOLOURS
AND DRAWINGS. Catalogue £3.75.

SUNDAY VIEW
Christie's will be open on Sunday, March 23, from
2 p.m. to 5 p.m., for a special view of Impressionist
and Modern Paintings, Watercolours, Drawings and
Sculpture.

OVERSEAS SALES
AT THE PALAZZO MASSIMO LANCELOTTI
Thursday, March 20 at 4 p.m. and 9 p.m.
FINE PICTURES, DRAWINGS AND PRINTS. Catalogue
£2.

IN HOLLAND
AT THE SINGER MUSEUM, LAREN
Monday, March 24 at 10.30 a.m., 2.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.
FINE PICTURES, DRAWINGS AND WATERCOLOURS
FROM THE 16th TO 20th CENTURIES. Catalogue
£3.20.

The following sales are incorporated in one catalogue,
price £3.20, code name Irene.

Tuesday, March 25 at 10.30 a.m.
DUTCH TILES AND TILE PICTURES.

Tuesday, March 25 at 2.30 p.m.
EUROPEAN CERAMICS, ART NOUVEAU AND ART
DECO.

Wednesday, March 26 at 10.30 a.m.
DELFTWARE, ASIATIC CERAMICS AND GLASS.

Wednesday, March 26 at 2.30 p.m.
ASIATIC CERAMICS.

The following sales are incorporated in one catalogue,
price £3.50, code name Chris.

Tuesday, March 25 at 7.30 p.m.
DUTCH SILVER.

Thursday, March 27 at 10.30 a.m.
METALWORK.

Thursday, March 27 at 2.30 p.m.
CLOCKS, SCULPTURE AND OBJECTS OF ART.

Thursday, March 27 at 7.30 p.m.
JEWELLERY.

Friday, March 28 at 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
RUGS AND FURNITURE.

Wednesday, March 26 at 7.30 p.m.
IMPORTANT CHINESE AND JAPANESE CERAMICS.
Catalogue £5.

IN AMERICA
AT THE LOS ANGELES CONVENTION CENTRE

Saturday, March 29 at 3 p.m.
COLLECTORS' CARS INCLUDING VINTAGE AIR-
PLANES.

All catalogue prices are post paid.

All sales subject to the conditions printed in the
catalogue.

For details of sales at Christie's South Kensington,
please contact Mrs. Christie's South Kensington, 85
Old Brompton Road, London, S.W.7. Tel: 01-851 2231.



Tuesday, 18th March, 11 a.m.
FURNITURE, EASTERN CARPETS
AND WORKS OF ART

Tuesday, 18th March, 2 p.m.
CLOCKS & WATCHES
illus. catalogue £2.00 by post

Wednesday 19th March, 11 a.m.
CHINESE & JAPANESE CERAMICS
AND WORKS OF ART

Wednesday 19th March, 12 noon
BAXTER PRINTS & STEVENGRAPHS

Thursday, 20th March, 10 a.m.
FINE FURS
illus. catalogue 47p by post

Thursday, 20th March, 11 a.m.
COVERS WITH HANDSTUCK &
ADHESIVE STAMPS
illus. catalogue 67p by post

Friday, 21st March, 11 a.m.
GOOD ENGLISH & CONTINENTAL
SILVER & PLATE
illus. catalogue 13p by post

Monday, 24th March, 11 a.m.
FURNITURE, EASTERN CARPETS
& OBJECTS

Monday, 24th March, 2 p.m.
OIL PAINTINGS

Tuesday, 25th March, 11 a.m.
GOOD ENGLISH & CONTINENTAL
FURNITURE & WORKS OF ART
illus. catalogue £1.82 by post

Tuesday, 25th March, 1.30 p.m.
MAGNIFICENT JEWELS
illus. catalogue £1.82 by post

PHILLIPS WEST 2
10 SALEM ROAD, LONDON, W.2
Thursday, 20th March, 10 a.m.
FURNITURE, PORCELAIN
& WORKS OF ART
View: Wednesday 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

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Friday, 21st March, 10 a.m.
FURNITURE, PORCELAIN
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View: Thursday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

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FURNITURE

Thursday 20th at 10 a.m.

OBJETS D'ART, etc.

Thursday 20th at 2 p.m.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

QUEBEC CENTRAL RAILWAY

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Quebec Central Railway Company will be held at the offices of the company, 1000 Avenue de la Gare, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, on Thursday, March 27, 1980, at 10 a.m. The business to be transacted at the meeting is as follows: 1. To receive and approve the accounts of the company for the year ended December 31, 1979. 2. To elect directors for the year 1980. 3. To elect auditors for the year 1980. 4. To transact any other business that may come before the meeting. A full and complete copy of the notice of meeting and the financial statements of the company for the year ended December 31, 1979, is being sent to each shareholder. If you have not received a copy, please apply to the Secretary of the company. Dated at Montreal, Canada, this 1st day of February, 1980. R. L. PARTRIDGE, Secretary.

COMMERCIAL SERVICES

TELEX SERVICE nation wide, 24 hrs. - Details 01-334 6077. **TELETYPE SERVICE** for business, 24 hrs. - Details 01-334 6077. **TELEPHONE SERVICE** for business, 24 hrs. - Details 01-334 6077. **TELEFAX SERVICE** for business, 24 hrs. - Details 01-334 6077. **TELEVISION SERVICE** for business, 24 hrs. - Details 01-334 6077. **TELECOM SERVICE** for business, 24 hrs. - Details 01-334 6077. **TELEPOST SERVICE** for business, 24 hrs. - Details 01-334 6077. **TELEGRAPH SERVICE** for business, 24 hrs. - Details 01-334 6077. **TELETYPE SERVICE** for business, 24 hrs. - Details 01-334 6077. **TELEPHONE SERVICE** for business, 24 hrs. - Details 01-334 6077. **TELEFAX SERVICE** for business, 24 hrs. - Details 01-334 6077. **TELEVISION SERVICE** for business, 24 hrs. - Details 01-334 6077. **TELECOM SERVICE** for business, 24 hrs. - Details 01-334 6077. **TELEPOST SERVICE** for business, 24 hrs. - Details 01-334 6077. **TELEGRAPH SERVICE** for business, 24 hrs. - Details 01-334 6077.

LONDON FLATS

PIMLICO FLATS, 121, 123, 125, 127, 129, 131, 133, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 165, 167, 169, 171, 173, 175, 177, 179, 181, 183, 185, 187, 189, 191, 193, 195, 197, 199, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 213, 215, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229, 231, 233, 235, 237, 239, 241, 243, 245, 247, 249, 251, 253, 255, 257, 259, 261, 263, 265, 267, 269, 271, 273, 275, 277, 279, 281, 283, 285, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297, 299, 301, 303, 305, 307, 309, 311, 313, 315, 317, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 331, 333, 335, 337, 339, 341, 343, 345, 347, 349, 351, 353, 355, 357, 359, 361, 363, 365, 367, 369, 371, 373, 375, 377, 379, 381, 383, 385, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395, 397, 399, 401, 403, 405, 407, 409, 411, 413, 415, 417, 419, 421, 423, 425, 427, 429, 431, 433, 435, 437, 439, 441, 443, 445, 447, 449, 451, 453, 455, 457, 459, 461, 463, 465, 467, 469, 471, 473, 475, 477, 479, 481, 483, 485, 487, 489, 491, 493, 495, 497, 499, 501, 503, 505, 507, 509, 511, 513, 515, 517, 519, 521, 523, 525, 527, 529, 531, 533, 535, 537, 539, 541, 543, 545, 547, 549, 551, 553, 555, 557, 559, 561, 563, 565, 567, 569, 571, 573, 575, 577, 579, 581, 583, 585, 587, 589, 591, 593, 595, 597, 599, 601, 603, 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615, 617, 619, 621, 623, 625, 627, 629, 631, 633, 635, 637, 639, 641, 643, 645, 647, 649, 651, 653, 655, 657, 659, 661, 663, 665, 667, 669, 671, 673, 675, 677, 679, 681, 683, 685, 687, 689, 691, 693, 695, 697, 699, 701, 703, 705, 707, 709, 711, 713, 715, 717, 719, 721, 723, 725, 727, 729, 731, 733, 735, 737, 739, 741, 743, 745, 747, 749, 751, 753, 755, 757, 759, 761, 763, 765, 767, 769, 771, 773, 775, 777, 779, 781, 783, 785, 787, 789, 791, 793, 795, 797, 799, 801, 803, 805, 807, 809, 811, 813, 815, 817, 819, 821, 823, 825, 827, 829, 831, 833, 835, 837, 839, 841, 843, 845, 847, 849, 851, 853, 855, 857, 859, 861, 863, 865, 867, 869, 871, 873, 875, 877, 879, 881, 883, 885, 887, 889, 891, 893, 895, 897, 899, 901, 903, 905, 907, 909, 911, 913, 915, 917, 919, 921, 923, 925, 927, 929, 931, 933, 935, 937, 939, 941, 943, 945, 947, 949, 951, 953, 955, 957, 959, 961, 963, 965, 967, 969, 971, 973, 975, 977, 979, 981, 983, 985, 987, 989, 991, 993, 995, 997, 999, 1001, 1003, 1005, 1007, 1009, 1011, 1013, 1015, 1017, 1019, 1021, 1023, 1025, 1027, 1029, 1031, 1033, 1035, 1037, 1039, 1041, 1043, 1045, 1047, 1049, 1051, 1053, 1055, 1057, 1059, 1061, 1063, 1065, 1067, 1069, 1071, 1073, 1075, 1077, 1079, 1081, 1083, 1085, 1087, 1089, 1091, 1093, 1095, 1097, 1099, 1101, 1103, 1105, 1107, 1109, 1111, 1113, 1115, 1117, 1119, 1121, 1123, 1125, 1127, 1129, 1131, 1133, 1135, 1137, 1139, 1141, 1143, 1145, 1147, 1149, 1151, 1153, 1155, 1157, 1159, 1161, 1163, 1165, 1167, 1169, 1171, 1173, 1175, 1177, 1179, 1181, 1183, 1185, 1187, 1189, 1191, 1193, 1195, 1197, 1199, 1201, 1203, 1205, 1207, 1209, 1211, 1213, 1215, 1217, 1219, 1221, 1223, 1225, 1227, 1229, 1231, 1233, 1235, 1237, 1239, 1241, 1243, 1245, 1247, 1249, 1251, 1253, 1255, 1257, 1259, 1261, 1263, 1265, 1267, 1269, 1271, 1273, 1275, 1277, 1279, 1281, 1283, 1285, 1287, 1289, 1291, 1293, 1295, 1297, 1299, 1301, 1303, 1305, 1307, 1309, 1311, 1313, 1315, 1317, 1319, 1321, 1323, 1325, 1327, 1329, 1331, 1333, 1335, 1337, 1339, 1341, 1343, 1345, 1347, 1349, 1351, 1353, 1355, 1357, 1359, 1361, 1363, 1365, 1367, 1369, 1371, 1373, 1375, 1377, 1379, 1381, 1383, 1385, 1387, 1389, 1391, 1393, 1395, 1397, 1399, 1401, 1403, 1405, 1407, 1409, 1411, 1413, 1415, 1417, 1419, 1421, 1423, 1425, 1427, 1429, 1431, 1433, 1435, 1437, 1439, 1441, 1443, 1445, 1447, 1449, 1451, 1453, 1455, 1457, 1459, 1461, 1463, 1465, 1467, 1469, 1471, 1473, 1475, 1477, 1479, 1481, 1483, 1485, 1487, 1489, 1491, 1493, 1495, 1497, 1499, 1501, 1503, 1505, 1507, 1509, 1511, 1513, 1515, 1517, 1519, 1521, 1523, 1525, 1527, 1529, 1531, 1533, 1535, 1537, 1539, 1541, 1543, 1545, 1547, 1549, 1551, 1553, 1555, 1557, 1559, 1561, 1563, 1565, 1567, 1569, 1571, 1573, 1575, 1577, 1579, 1581, 1583, 1585, 1587, 1589, 1591, 1593, 1595, 1597, 1599, 1601, 1603, 1605, 1607, 1609, 1611, 1613, 1615, 1617, 1619, 1621, 1623, 1625, 1627, 1629, 1631, 1633, 1635, 1637, 1639, 1641, 1643, 1645, 1647, 1649, 1651, 1653, 1655, 1657, 1659, 1661, 1663, 1665, 1667, 1669, 1671, 1673, 1675, 1677, 1679, 1681, 1683, 1685, 1687, 1689, 1691, 1693, 1695, 1697, 1699, 1701, 1703, 1705, 1707, 1709, 1711, 1713, 1715, 1717, 1719, 1721, 1723, 1725, 1727, 1729, 1731, 1733, 1735, 1737, 1739, 1741, 1743, 1745, 1747, 1749, 1751, 1753, 1755, 1757, 1759, 1761, 1763, 1765, 1767, 1769, 1771, 1773, 1775, 1777, 1779, 1781, 1783, 1785, 1787, 1789, 1791, 1793, 1795, 1797, 1799, 1801, 1803, 1805, 1807, 1809, 1811, 1813, 1815, 1817, 1819, 1821, 1823, 1825, 1827, 1829, 1831, 1833, 1835, 1837, 1839, 1841, 1843, 1845, 1847, 1849,

PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by David Sinclair

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: 6.40 Special Relativity: 7.05 Metals and the Electromagnetic Series: 7.20 Computing—Algorithms. Close-down at 7.55.

9.35 For Schools, Colleges: 9.35 Out of the Past—Georgian England (r); 9.55 Maths-in-a-Box (Plum Crazy); 10.16 Look and Read (The Boy from Space); 10.38 Resource Units: 11.13 (English) 11.00 Watch—Dinosaurs (r); 11.17 Television Club (r); 11.38 Shakespeare in Perspective (The Tenth Muse); 12.05 pm General Studies (r) Close-down at 12.30.

12.45 News.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Nancy Kuminov continues her series Painting Made Easy, and there is more advice in Family Matters.

1.45 Trumpet: Paper Series (r).

2.00 You and Me: The Surprise Friend (r).

2.14 For Schools, Colleges: 2.14 Encounter: Germany (r); 2.40 Home Economics (r). Close-down at 3.00.

3.25 Dechrau Siarad: Learning Welsh.

3.55 Play School: The story is Alvin Tresselt's It's Time Now! 4.30 Yogi Bear: Cartoon (r).

BBC 2

7.05 am Open University: Coal and the 19th Century; 7.30 Frank Lloyd Wright: Close-down at 7.55.

11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1 at 11.00.

11.25 Close-down at 11.25.

4.50 pm Open University: Maths—Orthogonal Bases; 5.15 The Nature of Digital Computing; 5.40 Maths—Development; 6.05 Reading and Writing; 6.30 Spreading Oceans; 6.55 Who's a Clever Boy? Strictly for the birds, this one, featuring a macaw and a budgie.

7.05 News with subtitles for the hard of hearing.

7.20 Europeans: Eric Robinson compares education in Britain with the system in France and Denmark.

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: 9.30 Experiment: Biology (The Dinosaur); 9.47 Seeing and Doing (Fur and Feather); 10.04 Reading with Lenny; 10.16 Work: Industrial Relations; 10.38 The English Farm (George and Mildred); 11.05 Leapfrog (masks for the seven to nine); 11.22 Good Health; 11.39 The Land (The Yodel Valley).

12.00 Paperplay: Houseboats and Bridges, part 2. With Susan Stranks.

12.10 pm Pinks: Quiet Please.

12.30 The Sullivan.

1.00 News with Peter Sissons.

1.30 Take the High Road: Jimmy Blair seeks Alan McIntyre's backing for a business he wants to start.

2.00 After Noon Plus: Dustin Hoffman and young Joan Henry, two of the stars of Kramer v. Kramer, talk about the making of the movie. Quite a catch, from the Welsh contrast in Williams.

2.45 Wide Alliance: Affray in Amsterdam. Diane Keen poses in this story of chicanery among the casuals.

3.45 Three Little Words: World.

9.30 am For Schools: 9.30 Experiment: Biology (The Dinosaur); 9.47 Seeing and Doing (Fur and Feather); 10.04 Reading with Lenny; 10.16 Work: Industrial Relations; 10.38 The English Farm (George and Mildred); 11.05 Leapfrog (masks for the seven to nine); 11.22 Good Health; 11.39 The Land (The Yodel Valley).

5.45 News.

6.00 Thames News with Andrew Gardner.

6.35 Help I with Joan Shepton.

6.55 Crossroads: Murray and Piliard and Harvey have something to say to each other about Adam Chance.

7.00 Charlie's Angels: What more can you expect from the series of High Tide. Interesting to compare this with the work of the old pair in the Channel 4 series, now reaching its climax on BBC 1 on Fridays.

8.30 Leave It to Charlie: Charlie has a chance of stardom when a film crew arrives at Lancaster Insurance to make an advertisement.

9.00 Holwood: Trick of the Light. How the early cameramen achieved their astonishing effects.

10.00 News.

10.30 The Burglars: Omar Sharif, Jean-Paul Belmondo and Dyan Cannon (for the second night) bring in a glossy 1970 thriller about a jewel gang and the police who catch them.

11.00 The Old Grey Whistle Test: A far cry from Lonnie Donegan—the photos and original mirrors.

11.30 News.

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11.30 News.

11.55 Yesterday's Witness in

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.

6.10 Farming Today.

6.30 Today.

7.00 8.00 News.

7.30 8.30 Headlines.

8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.

9.00 News.

9.05 Tuesday Call.

10.00 News.

10.05 In Britain Now.

10.30 Daily Service.

10.45 Once Upon an Ice Age (2).

11.00 News.

11.05 Play: Total Security.

11.35 Local Edition.

12.00 News.

12.05 Play: You and Yours.

12.20 Down Your Way.

12.55 Weather.

1.00 The World at One.

1.10 The Archers.

2.00 News.

2.02 Woman's Hour.

3.00 News.

3.02 Listen with Mother.

3.15 Women in Love (31).

4.10 Bookshelf.

4.45 Story: Run for the Money.

5.00 PM.

5.55 Weather.

6.00 News.

6.30 A Touch of Thurbur.

7.00 News.

7.05 The Archers.

7.20 The Restless Years (9).

8.05 In Touch.

8.30 Choirs of Wales (31).

9.15 Form Our Own Correspondent.

9.30 Kaleidoscope.

10.00 The World Tonight.

10.30 The Hornblower Story.

11.00 A Book at Bedtime.

11.15 Finance World Tonight.

11.30 Today in Parliament.

12.00 News.

12.15 am 12.23 Weather.

Radio 3

6.55 am (m-w only) Weather.

7.00 News.

7.05 Records: Tippett, Gibbons, Harris, Fildes.

8.00 News.

8.05 Records: Widmann, Brahms, Dvorak.

9.00 News.

9.05 Week's Composer: Holst.

10.00 The Trio-Sonata.

11.00 Songs (Rolf Johnson), pt 1: Schumann (Liederkreis).

11.25 Interval reading.

11.30 Songs, pt 2: Strauss, Britten.

12.25 pm BBC Northern SO/Krenn, pt 1: Mussorgsky, Debussy (Mer.)

1.00 News.

1.05 Six Continents: World News.

1.25 BBCSO, pt 2: Wolf, Ravel.

2.10 German baroque cantatas and sonatas.

3.00 Piano: Stevenson (Passacaglia).

4.25 Jazz Today.

4.55 News.

5.00 Music for money only.

6.00 Music for money only.

7.00 Record: Saint-Saens.

7.30 Play: Buffon, by Rhye Adrian.

8.35 Record: Strauss (Sym 3).

9.30 Northern Sinfonia Orch/Parkinson: Mozart, Bach, Haydn (Sym 38).

10.30 Childhood's Pattern: songs.

10.50 Music in Our Time: Howard.

11.00 Wing-Fai, Scuthouse, Lam.

11.55-12.00 News.

Radio 2

5.00 am News, weather. 5.03 Ray Moore's 7.30 Terry Wogan. 10.03 Jimmy Young. 12.05 David Hamilton. 2.45 Ed Stewart. 4.03 Much More Music. 5.00 News. 5.05 Wagoners' Walk. 5.20 Much More Music. 6.03 David Robson. 8.00 Hubert Green. 9.05 Glamorous Night. 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.02 Frankie Howard. 11.02 Brian Matthew. 2.02-5.00 am You and the Night and the Music.

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING STARTS HERE

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- BUSINESS TO BUSINESS 22
- DOMESTIC SITUATIONS 22
- ENTERTAINMENTS 22
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- PROPERTY 22
- PUBLIC NOTICES 22
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- SALESMEN AND ANTQUES 22
- SECRETARIAL AND NON SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS 22
- SERVICES 22
- SITUATIONS WANTED 22
- WANTED 22

Not to be confused with the address in the Times, PO Box 1, New Printing House Square, City, London EC4A 3DF.

To place an advertisement in any of these categories, tel: 01-373 3311

APPOINTMENTS 01-278 9161

PROPERTY ESTATE AGENTS 01-278 9231

PERSONAL TRADE 01-278 9251

MANCHESTER OFFICE 061-834 1234

Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel: Classified Queries Department 01-373 1234, ext. 7189.

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD.

We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day, mistakes do occur and we ask therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to the Classified Queries Department immediately by telephone 01-373 1234 (Ext. 7189). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL COPY IS 24 HOURS.

Alterations to copy by 3.00 pm prior to the day of publication. For Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

Use only the most honest and reliable references: it is not enough that references come; but must be that they are honest and reliable. (Continued) - St. Matthew 18:7.

BIRTHS

ATKINS—On 18th March at St. Mary's Hospital, Chelsea, a daughter (Margaret Ruth), a sister for Peter and Christopher.

BUCHANAN—On 18th March at St. Mary's Hospital, Chelsea, a daughter (Florence), a sister for John and Christopher.

DINDALE—On 18th March at St. Mary's Hospital, Chelsea, a daughter (Susan), a sister for John and Christopher.

DUFFIN—On 18th March at St. Mary's Hospital, Chelsea, a daughter (Susan), a sister for John and Christopher.

DEATHS

ATKINS—On 18th March at St. Mary's Hospital, Chelsea, a daughter (Margaret Ruth), a sister for Peter and Christopher.

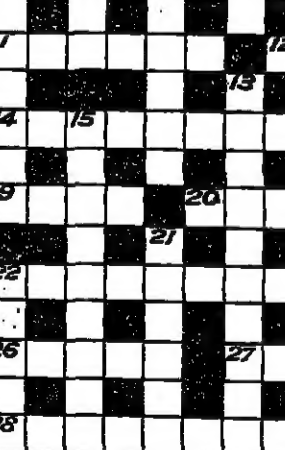
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THE TIMES Crossword Puzzle No 15,176

This puzzle, used at the London A regional final of the City & Times National Crossword Championship, was solved within 30 minutes by 30 per cent of the finalists.



- ACROSS**
- 1 Vessel which could return to still waters (5).
 - 2 Self-interest disqualifies him as look-out man (9).
 - 3 "What's yours?" Olivia asked Viola (9).
 - 4 What language, Fido! (5).
 - 5 Take stock with little noise (6).
 - 6 He supports her in a depression (8).
 - 7 Application for features of the glossy sort (4-6).
 - 8 Spooner unobtrusively ran off with this pretty girl (4).
 - 9 Thunderous applause (4).
 - 10 Their appearance is original (10).
 - 11 Tributes won by the practical Gus from the gallery (18).
 - 12 Flute part. Who may? (6).
 - 13 One direction to workers (5).
 - 14 Certainly Thomas wasn't (9).
 - 15 Last one to score (9).
 - 16 Wear outstanding features, or 15 (5).
- DOWN**
- 1 No eye-opener, this (9).
 - 2 Florentine flag of gold or silver face (5).
 - 3 Does she write and run away? (8).
 - 4 Question of illegal retributions in the country (4).

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FITZPATRICK—On 18th March at St. Mary's Hospital, Chelsea, a daughter (Margaret Ruth), a sister for Peter and Christopher.

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PERSONAL COLUMNS ALSO ON PAGE 23

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE TIMES

The Times deeply regrets the inconvenience and reduction in service to its classified advertisers. This is caused by severe staff shortages in the Telephone Sales Department. Whilst everything possible is being done to improve the situation, we would ask advertisers to continue sending advertisements and notices in writing to The Times, Room N315, PO Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. If you require any further help, please ring 01-373 3311; we apologise should there be a delay in getting through.

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE DIRECTORS LODGE CLUB WELCOMES YOU TO BE OUR GUEST FOR COMPLIMENTARY DRINKS

Some of our members and friends are unable to attend our regular meetings due to illness or other commitments. Therefore, to be completely fair to all members, we have decided to offer complimentary drinks to all members who are unable to attend our regular meetings. This offer is valid for the next three months. Members who are unable to attend our regular meetings should contact the Club Secretary, Mr. J. H. Smith, at 01-373 3311, to arrange for their complimentary drinks to be sent to them.

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

BIG FLIGHT SAVINGS

ALICANTE from £58
ATHENS from £88
CATANIA from £87
FARO from £55
MALAGA from £54
MALTA from £78
PALMA from £53

Departures from Luton, Gatwick, Heathrow and Manchester.

For full details of these and many other flights in Europe contact:

SILVAIR TRAVEL CLUB
12/18 KING STREET, LUTON, BEDS LU2 2DW.
Tel: 0457 3333 (0562) 41131
Admission: (0562) 41131
ATOL 2478

Airport taxes and fuel surcharges extra.

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

APRIL BARGAIN

IN CORFU AND RHODOS

Rhodes departures: 17, 24 April from Corfu
Chevaliers Palace, Rhodes
14 nights HT £24
Constantin, Rhodes
14 nights HT £24
Blue Bay, Rhodes
14 nights HT £24
Corfu departures: 9, 16, 23, 30 April from Corfu
Robinsons Hotel Corfu
7 nights HT £12
Seagull Apartments, Corfu
14 nights HT £24

Prices include all surcharges and airport taxes. All holidays are subject to availability.

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

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MYKONOS
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ATOL 3318

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

WHICH ISLAND PARADISE

Are you still having difficulty finding the holiday of your dreams? We have the solution. Our new holiday brochures, which are available from April 1st to October 31st, contain the latest information on all the islands of Greece. They include details of the best hotels, the most beautiful beaches, and the most exciting activities. Contact: 01-351 2366.

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